

**Archie**  
ADVENTURE  
SERIES

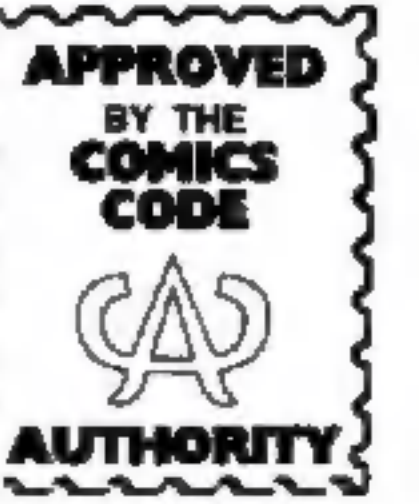
NO.  
**145** US \$2.19



**SEGA**

# SONIC™

## THE HEDGEHOG



**SHADOW  
RETURNS ...**



**... AND  
SONIC  
DOESN'T STAND  
A CHANCE!**







**S**HADOW WAS CREATED ONBOARD  
A LAB LOCATED IN GEOSYNCH  
ORBIT OVER THE PLANET MOBIUS,  
AND ORIGINALLY CONSIDERED  
A PRODUCT, A CONSTRUCTION,  
A WEAPON, ANYTHING BUT  
WHAT IT TRULY WAS,  
A BIOMECHANICAL LIFEFORM!

**B**Y EVERY KNOWN DEFINITION,  
IT WAS SENTIENT!  
IT COULD THINK, REASON...  
AND FEEL!

**S**INCE THE DEATH OF ITS  
CREATOR SHORTLY AFTER  
ACTIVATION, THERE HAVE BEEN  
MANY QUESTIONS AND  
ZERO ANSWERS...

**...SO FAR, THAT IS.  
SHADOW'S QUEST BEGINS HERE...**



# SHADOWS OF HOPE

THEY'VE BEEN COMING HERE LIKE CLOCKWORK THE PAST SEVERAL WEEKS--

--DOING THE SAME THING OVER AND OVER! WHY? TO WHAT PURPOSE?

SPECIAL THANKS TO ROBERT LEFFLER AND DYNA LOPEZ AT SEGA LICENSING

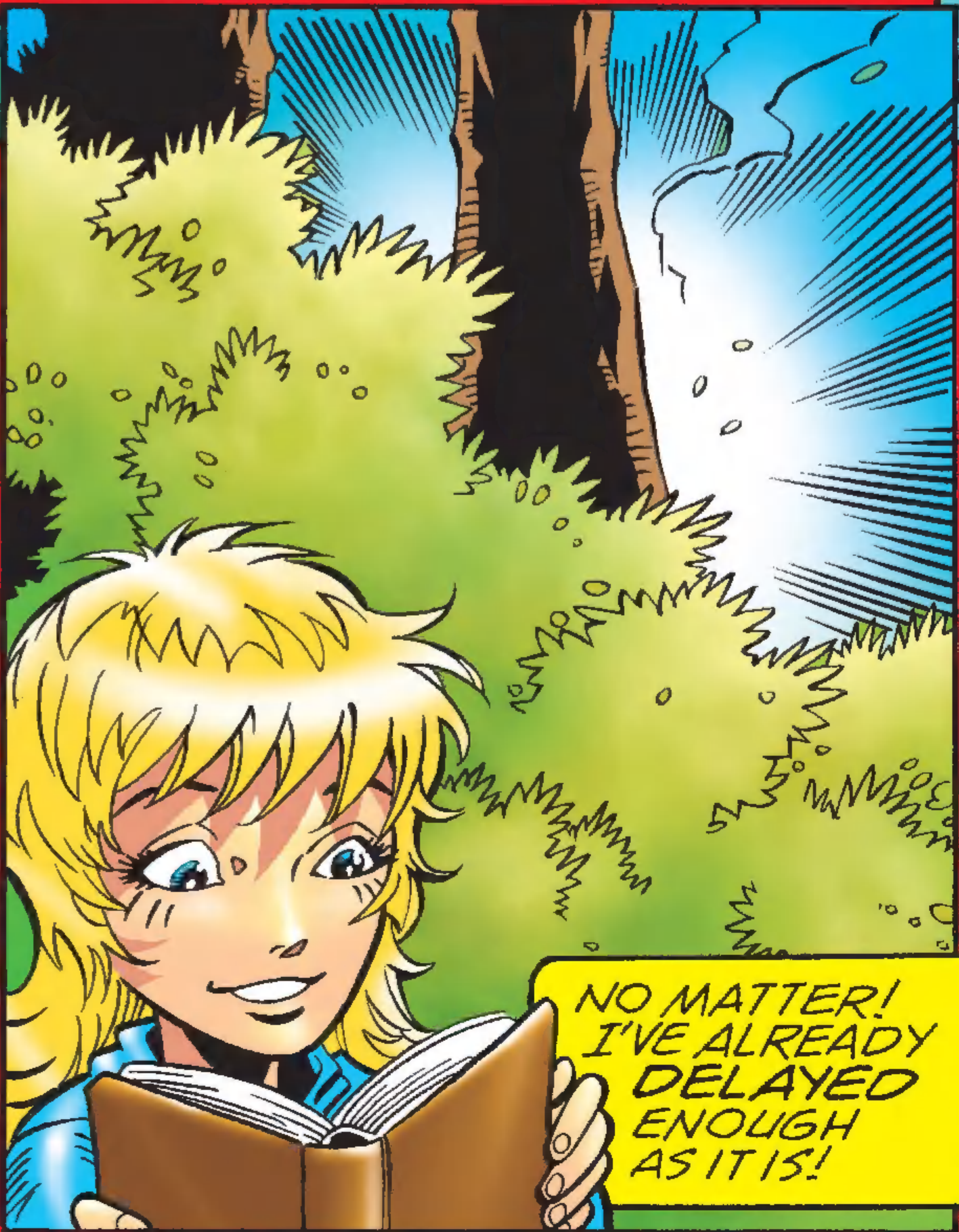
IN ANSWER TO A ZILLION READER REQUESTS... KEN PENDERS/Writer • RON LIM/Penciler • AL MILGROM/Inker  
JOHN WORKMAN/Letterer • JASON JENSEN/Colorist ...PRESENT A SMALL GLIMPSE OF THE SAGA OF SHADOW!

MIKE PELLERITO/EDITOR • VICTOR GORELICK/MANAGING EDITOR • RICHARD GOLDWATER/ EDITOR-IN-CHIEF



SHE LOOKS LIKE MARIA--

--BUT SHE SAYS HER NAME IS HOPE!



NO MATTER! I'VE ALREADY DELAYED ENOUGH AS IT IS!



IDENTIFY  
YOURSELF--

--OR ELSE BE  
CONSIDERED A  
FOE!

I AM NEITHER  
FRIEND NOR FOE--

--JUST SOMEONE IN NEED  
OF YOUR ABILITIES!

IN MY  
DESIRE TO  
CONFRONT  
THE  
CREATURE,  
I HAD  
CARE-  
LESSLY  
OVER-  
LOOKED  
THE  
POSSI-  
BILITY--

--THAT I MIGHT DRAW  
INNOCENTS INTO THE  
LINE OF FIRE!

OH!

IT'S  
HIM!

THE  
CHOICE IS  
YOURS!

THEN I CHOOSE  
NOT TO BE  
INVOLVED  
WITH YOUR  
AFFAIRS!

I  
RESPECT  
YOUR  
DECISION--

--THOUGH I'M  
AFRAID I CAN'T  
TAKE "NO"  
FOR AN  
ANSWER!

THWIIIP!

WHUMP!



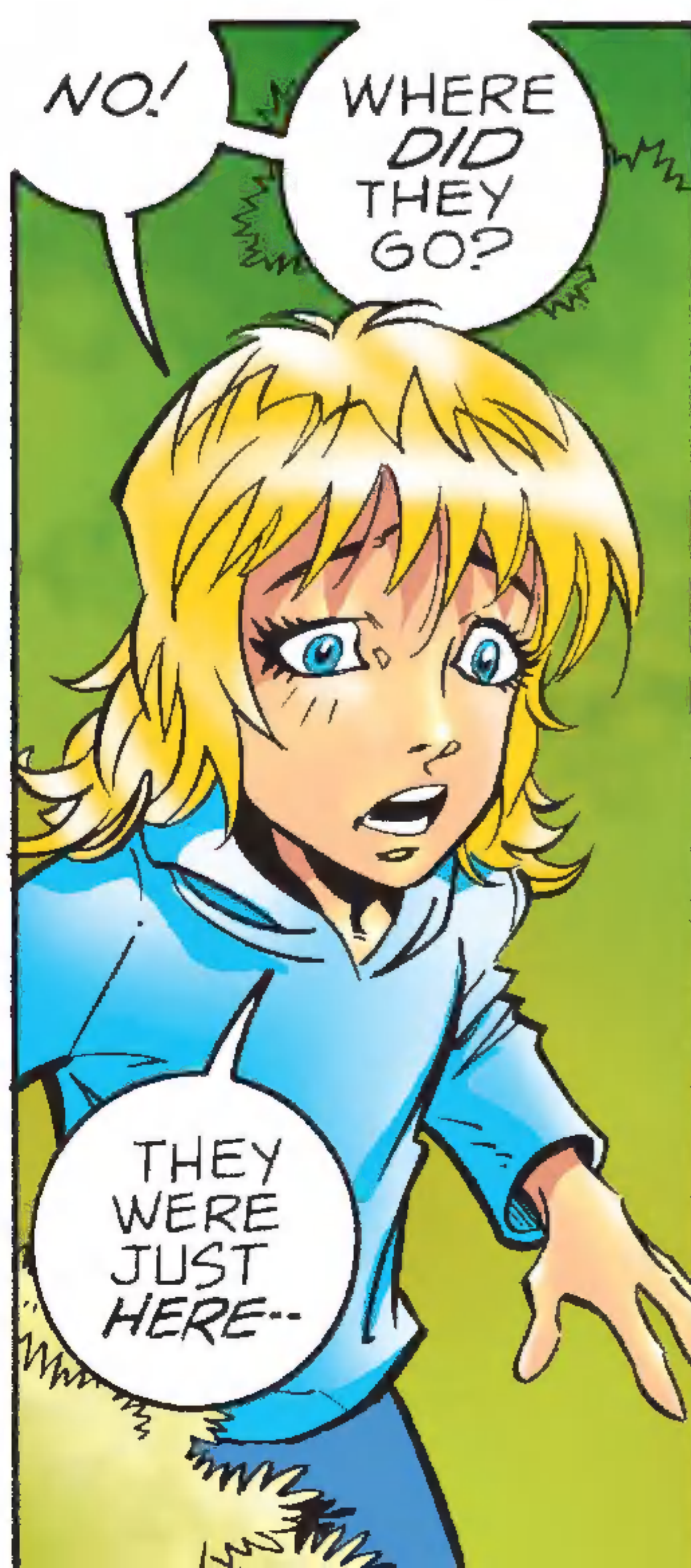


YOU MUST BE  
**MAD** IF YOU  
BELIEVE  
FOR ONE  
MOMENT--

--ALL IT  
TAKES IS  
SOME **STRING**  
TO TAKE ME  
**DOWN!**

NOW THAT  
I KNOW AN  
**ENEMY** STANDS  
BEFORE ME--

--I WILL NOT  
HESITATE  
TO...



NO!

WHERE  
**DID**  
THEY  
GO?

THEY  
WERE  
JUST  
HERE--



--RIGHT  
IN THIS  
**SPOT--**

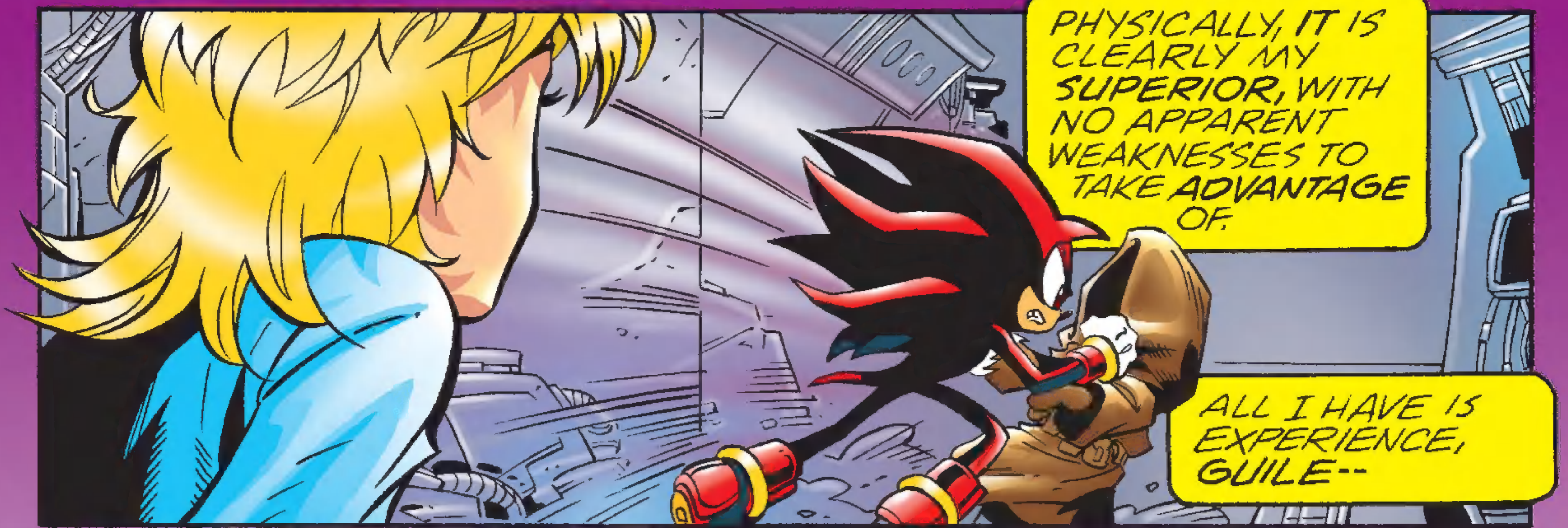
OH,  
**WOW!**



I'M  
**HERE--**

--WHEREVER  
THIS IS!





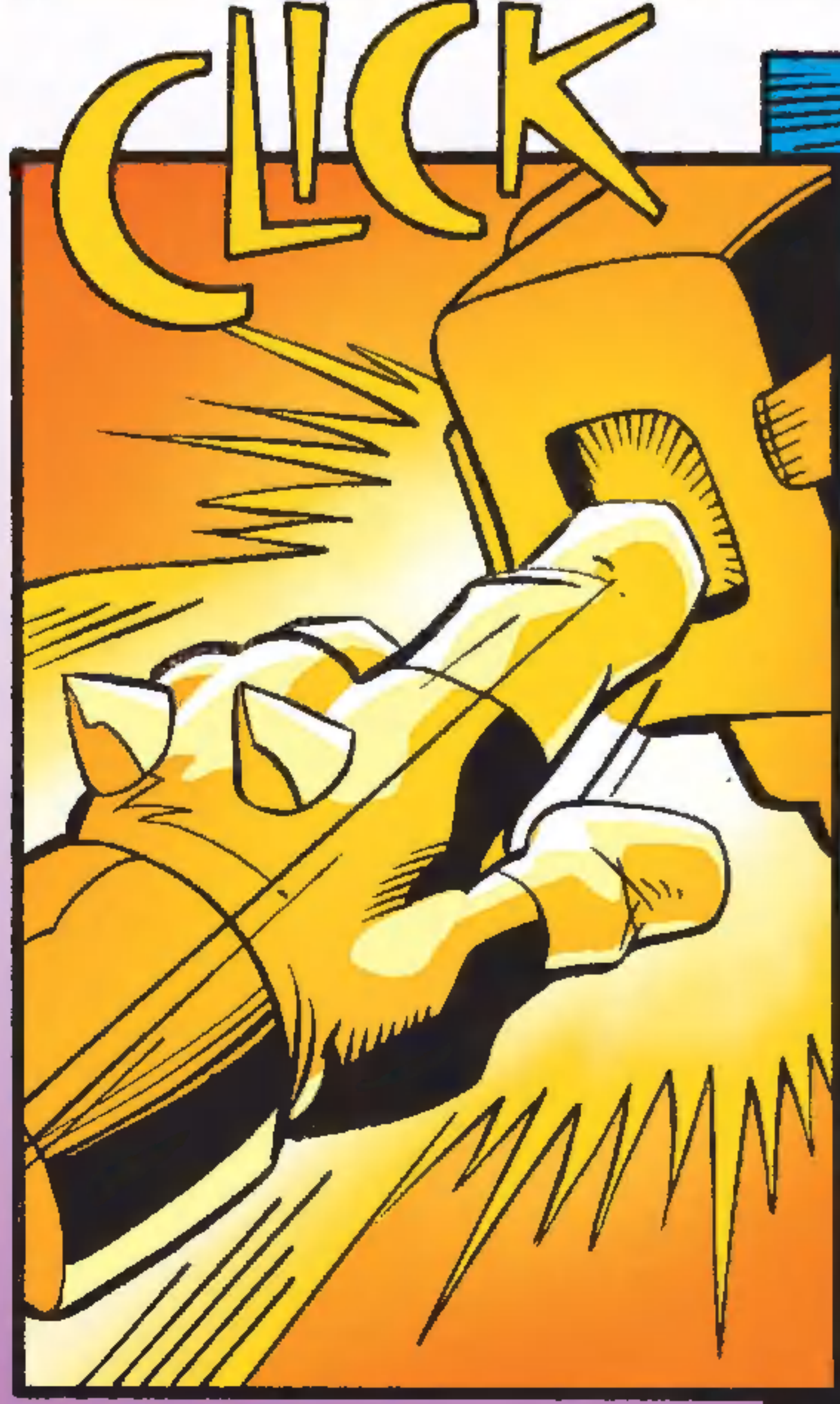
PHYSICALLY, IT IS CLEARLY MY SUPERIOR, WITH NO APPARENT WEAKNESSES TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF.

ALL I HAVE IS EXPERIENCE, GUILF--

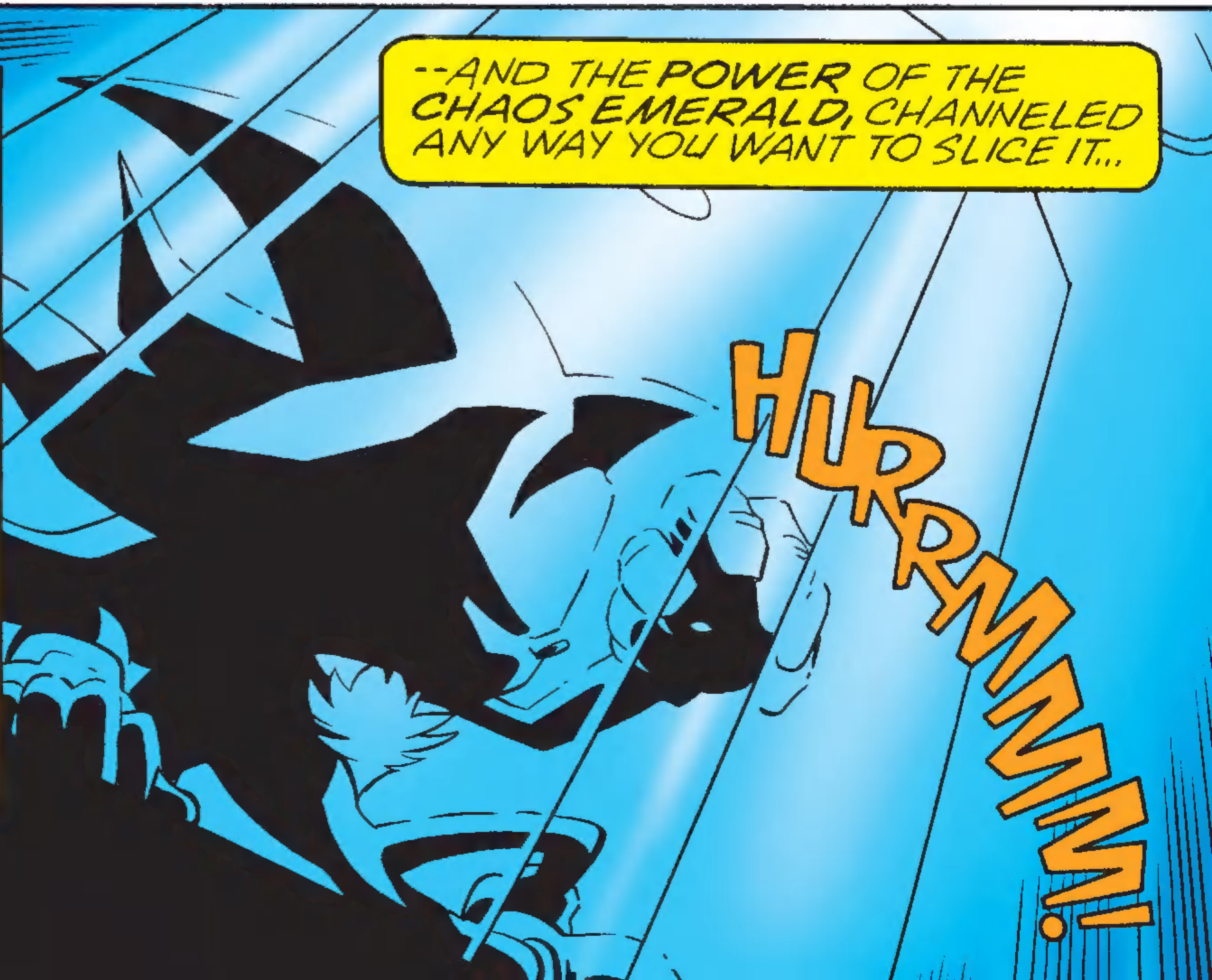


--A KNOWLEDGE OF THE COMBAT ARTS--

THUDD



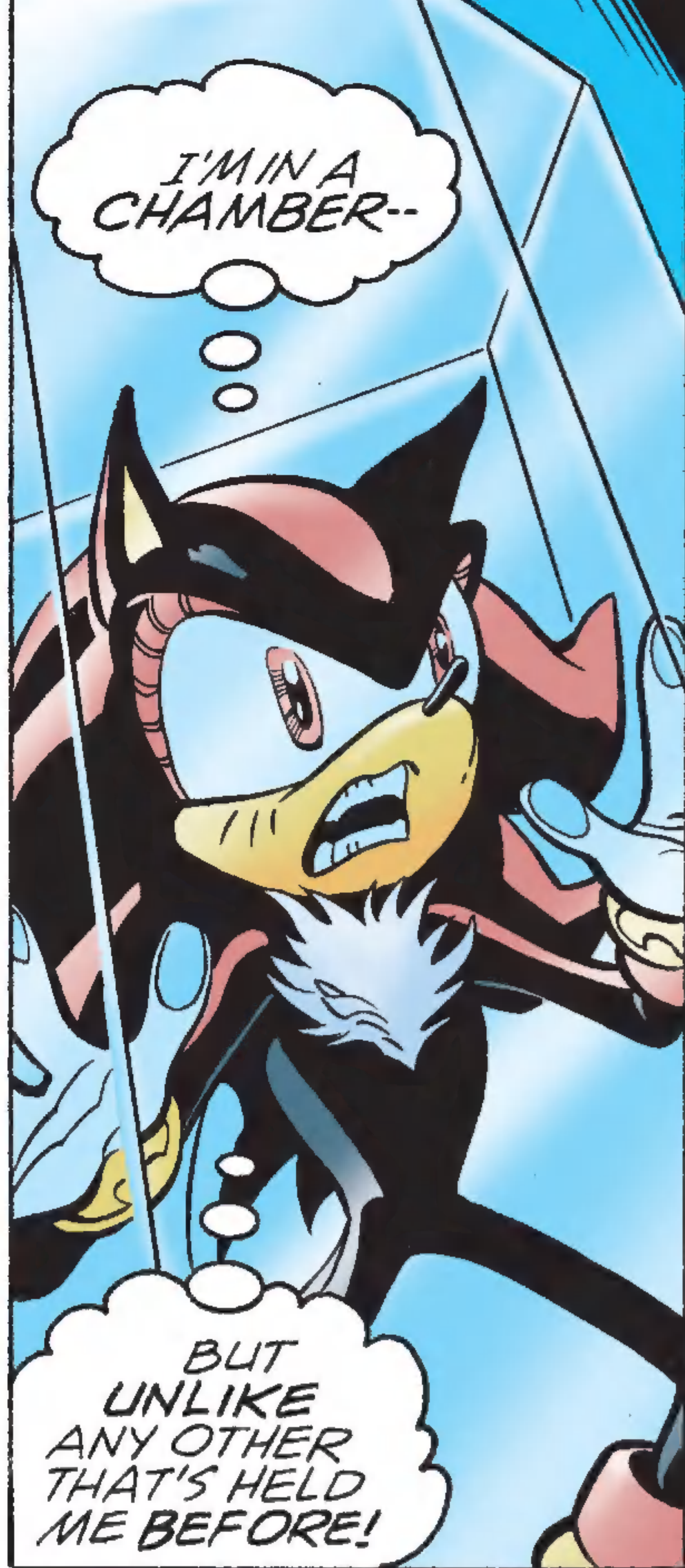
CLICK



--AND THE POWER OF THE CHAOS EMERALD, CHanneled ANY WAY YOU WANT TO SLICE IT..

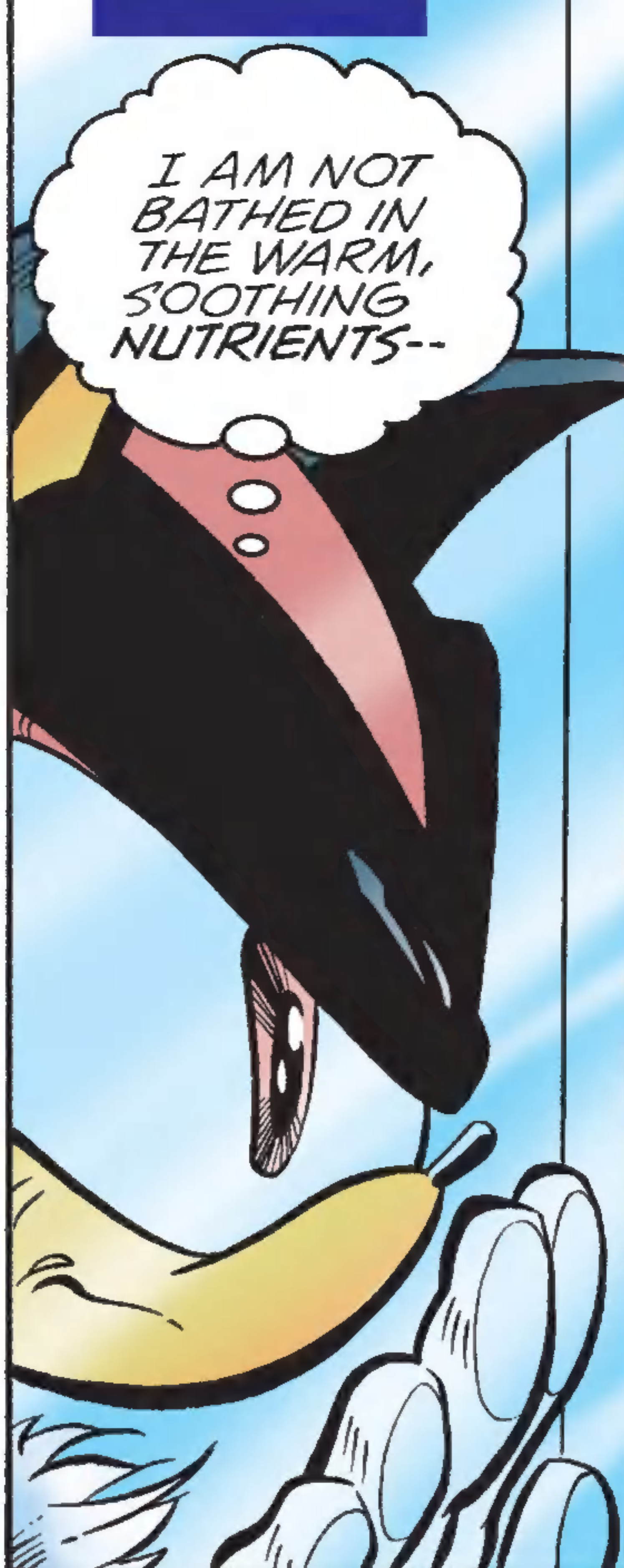
HURRRNNNN!





I'M IN A CHAMBER--

BUT  
UNLIKE  
ANY OTHER  
THAT'S HELD  
ME BEFORE!



I AM NOT  
BATHED IN  
THE WARM,  
SOOTHING  
NUTRIENTS--



"--THAT PROFESSOR  
GERALD HAD  
RAISED ME IN..."\*

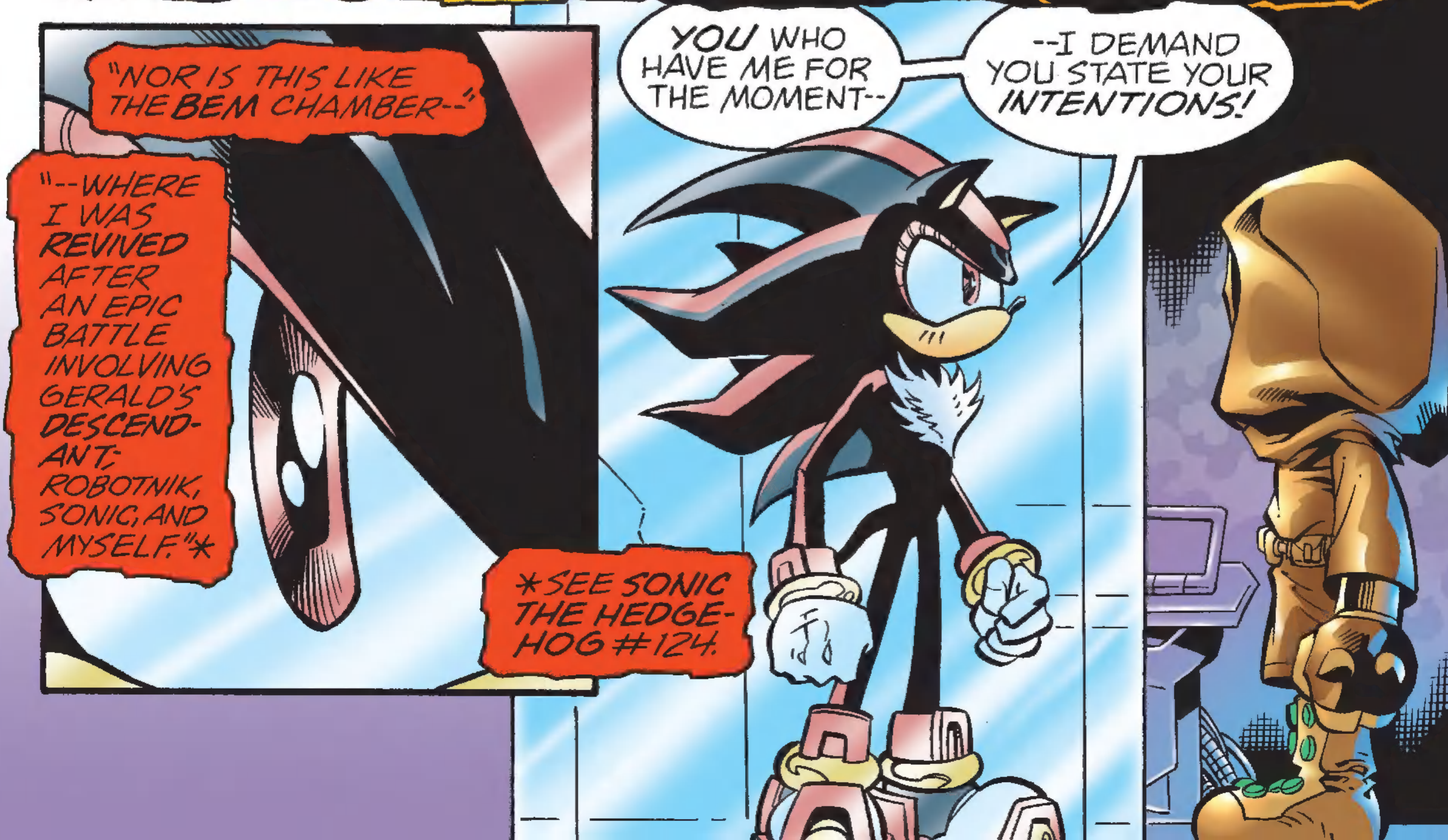
IT IS  
TIME FOR YOU  
TO AWAKEN!



"THE NEXT THING  
I KNOW, I AM  
WITNESSING THE  
MURDER OF THE  
PROFESSOR'S  
GRANDDAUGHTER  
MARIA..."\*

UNGH!

\*SEE SONIC  
THE HEDGE-  
HOG # 98.



"NOR IS THIS LIKE  
THE BEM CHAMBER--"

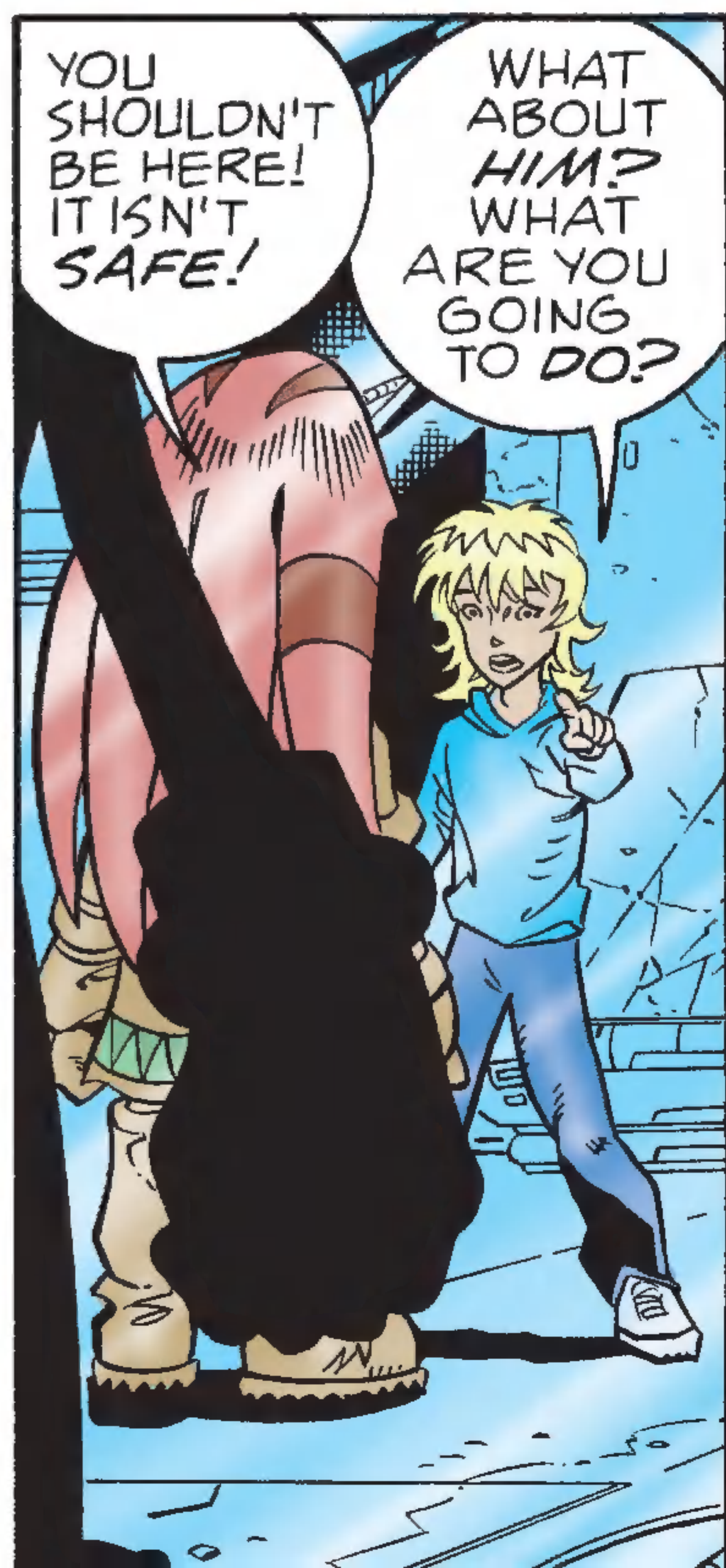
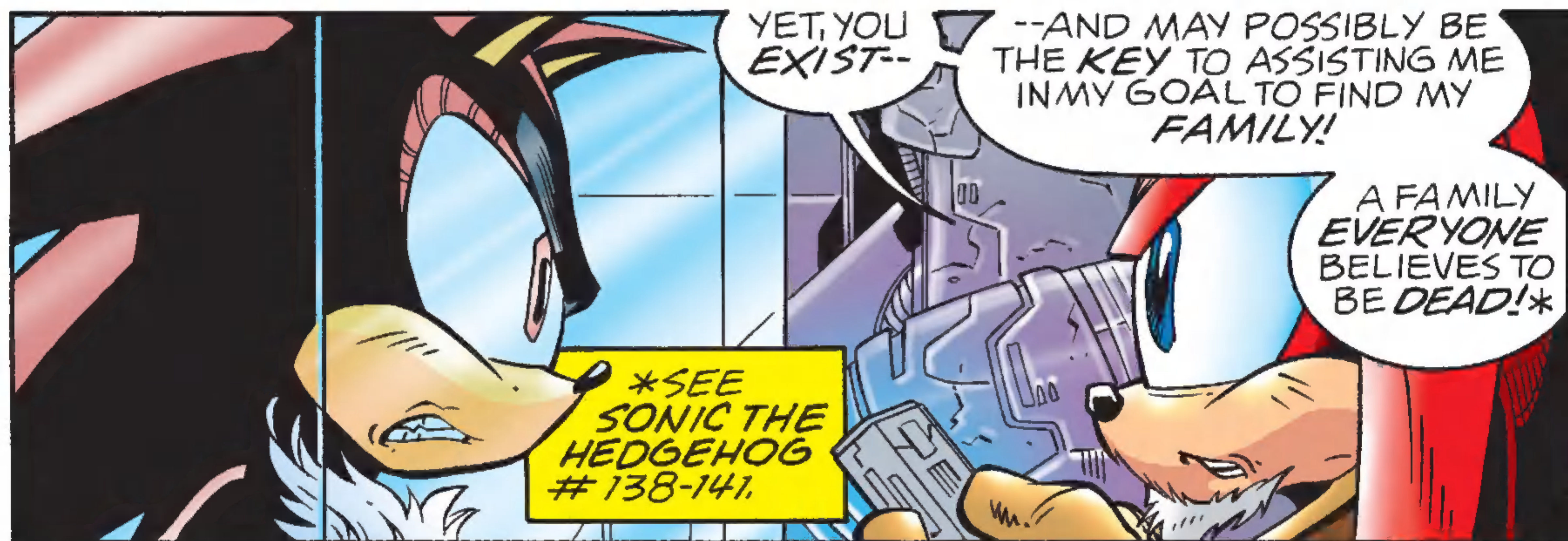
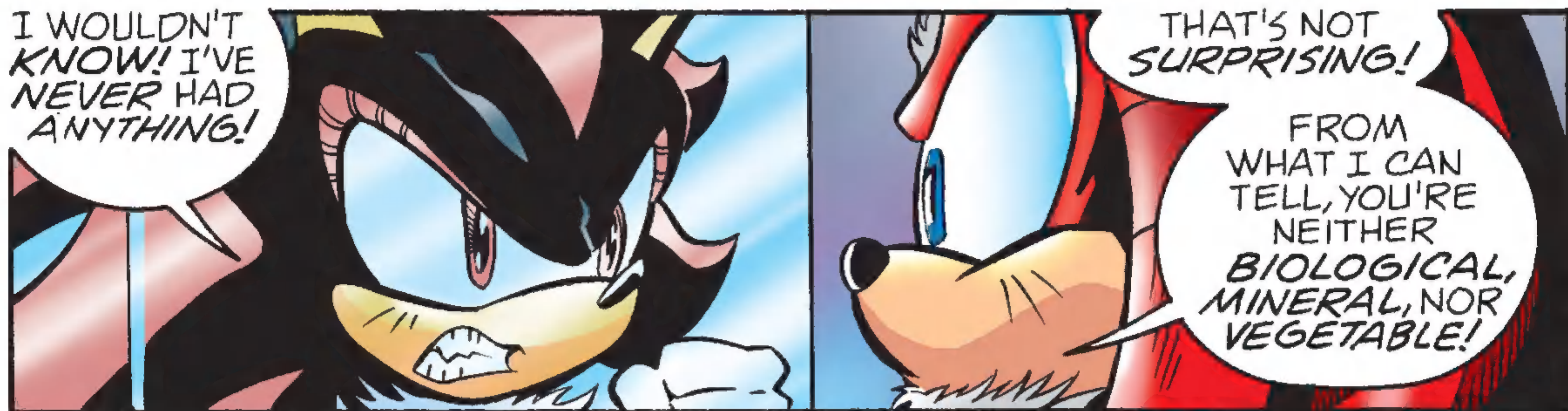
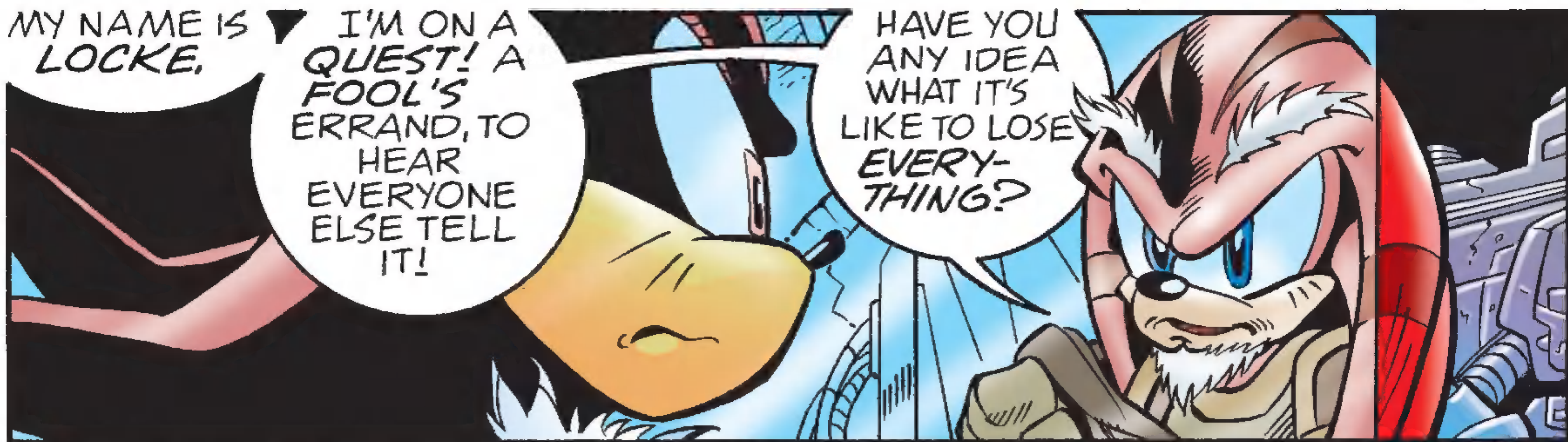
"--WHERE  
I WAS  
REVIVED  
AFTER  
AN EPIC  
BATTLE  
INVOLVING  
GERALD'S  
DESCEND-  
ANT,  
ROBOTNIK,  
SONIC, AND  
MYSELF..."\*

YOU WHO  
HAVE ME FOR  
THE MOMENT--

--I DEMAND  
YOU STATE YOUR  
INTENTIONS!

\*SEE SONIC  
THE HEDGE-  
HOG #124.







AS I APPROACHED THE GIRL, IT HADN'T DAWNED ON ME WHAT REACTIONS I WAS PROVOKING WITHIN THE CREATURE--THAT IT WAS ASSOCIATING THE PRESENT WITH WHAT HAPPENED IN ITS PAST--

YOU'RE TOO YOUNG TO UNDERSTAND!

--THAT I WAS THE MATCH--

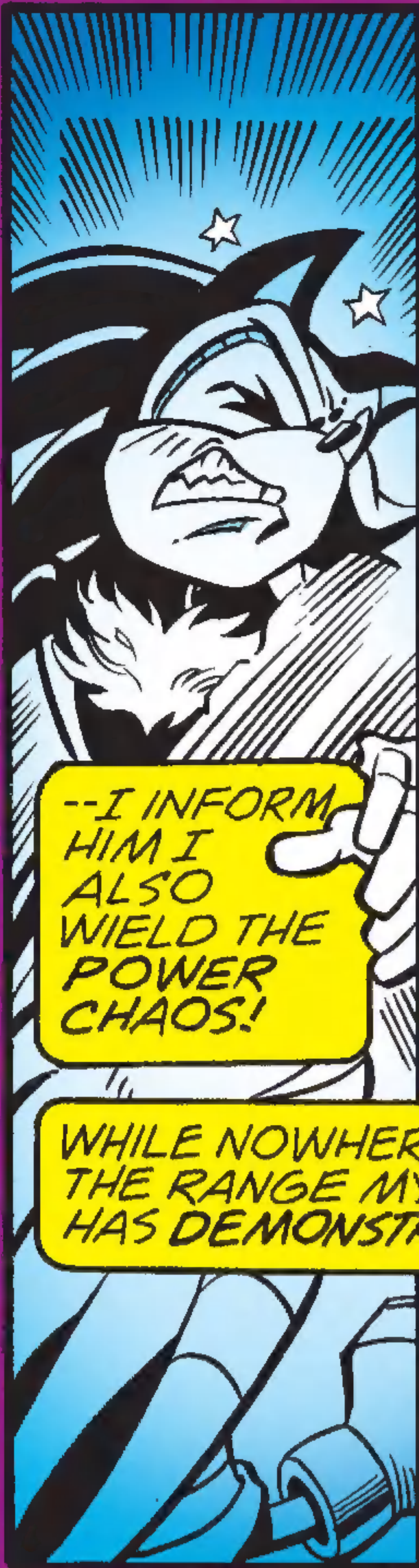
--LIGHTING THE FUSE--

--SETTING OFF THE EXPLOSION!

THUDD!

JUST WHEN MATTERS SEEMED AT THEIR MOST DIRE--

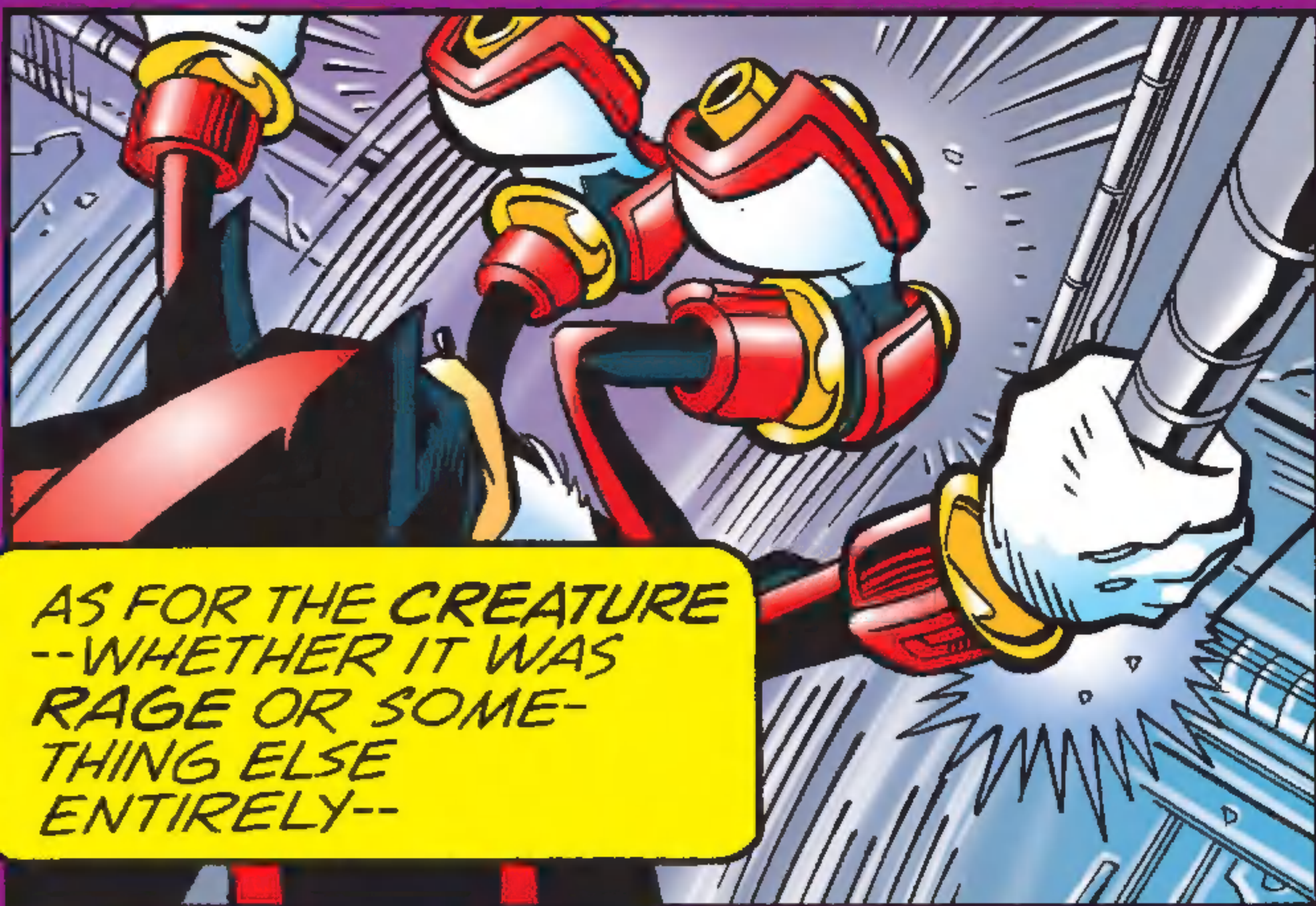




--I INFORM HIM I ALSO WIELD THE POWER CHAOS!

WHILE NOWHERE NEAR THE RANGE MY SON HAS DEMONSTRATED--

--BUT WHAT I WAS CAPABLE OF WAS MORE THAN SUFFICIENT!



AS FOR THE CREATURE --WHETHER IT WAS RAGE OR SOMETHING ELSE ENTIRELY--



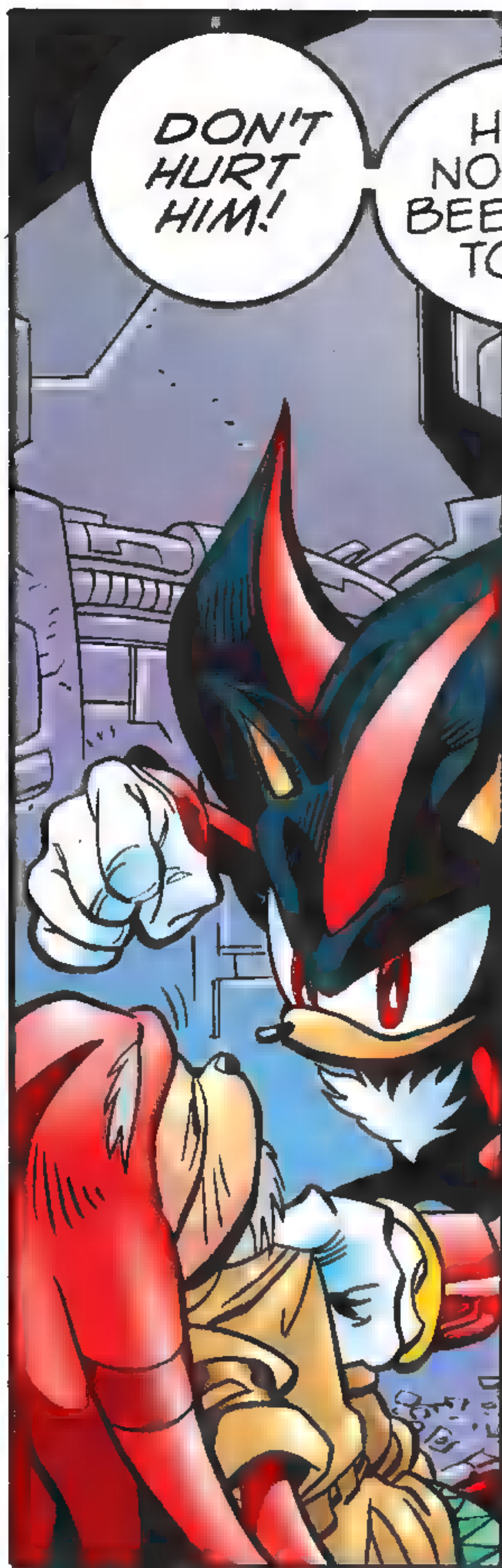
--IT WAS PROVING IT HAD SOMETHING I LACKED--



--KILLER INSTINCT!



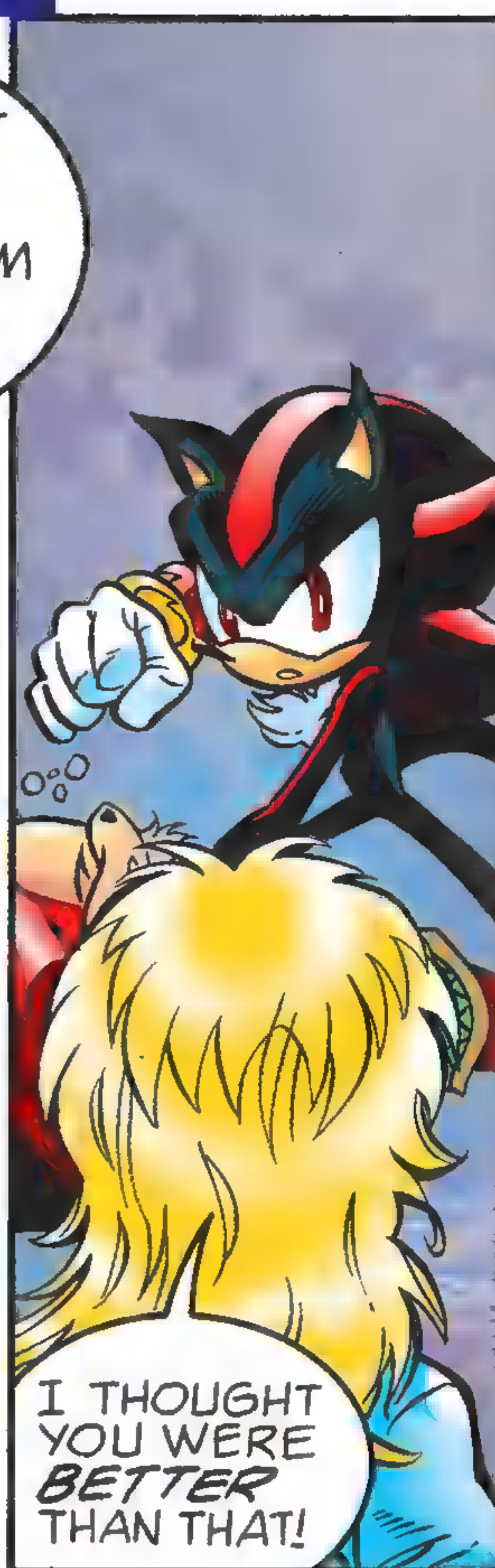




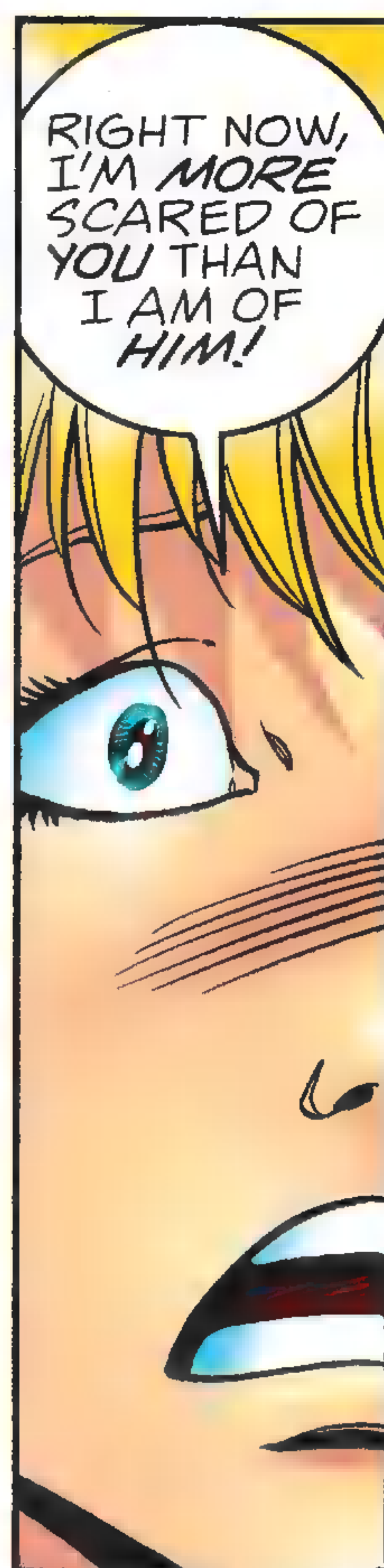
DON'T HURT HIM!

HE MAY NOT HAVE BEEN *NICE* TO YOU--

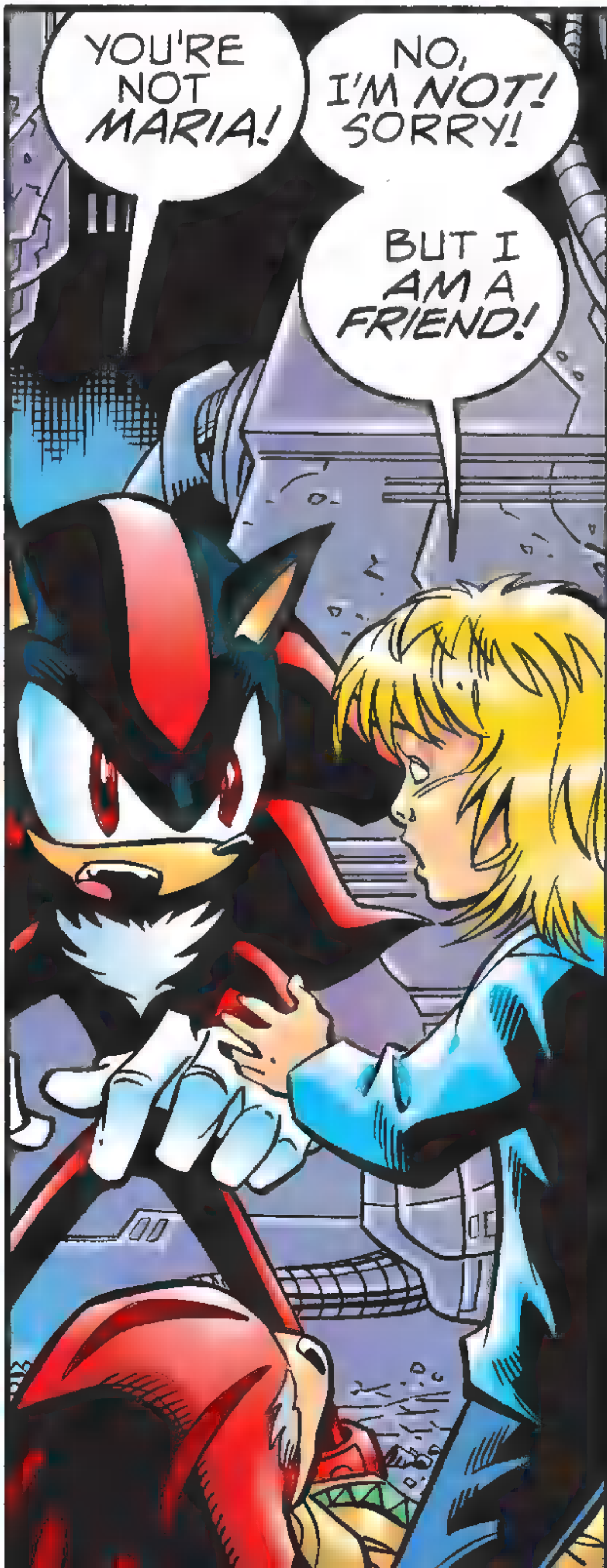
--BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN YOU CAN TREAT HIM THE *SAME* WAY!



I THOUGHT YOU WERE *BETTER* THAN THAT!



RIGHT NOW, I'M *MORE* SCARED OF YOU THAN I AM OF HIM!



YOU'RE NOT *MARIA*!

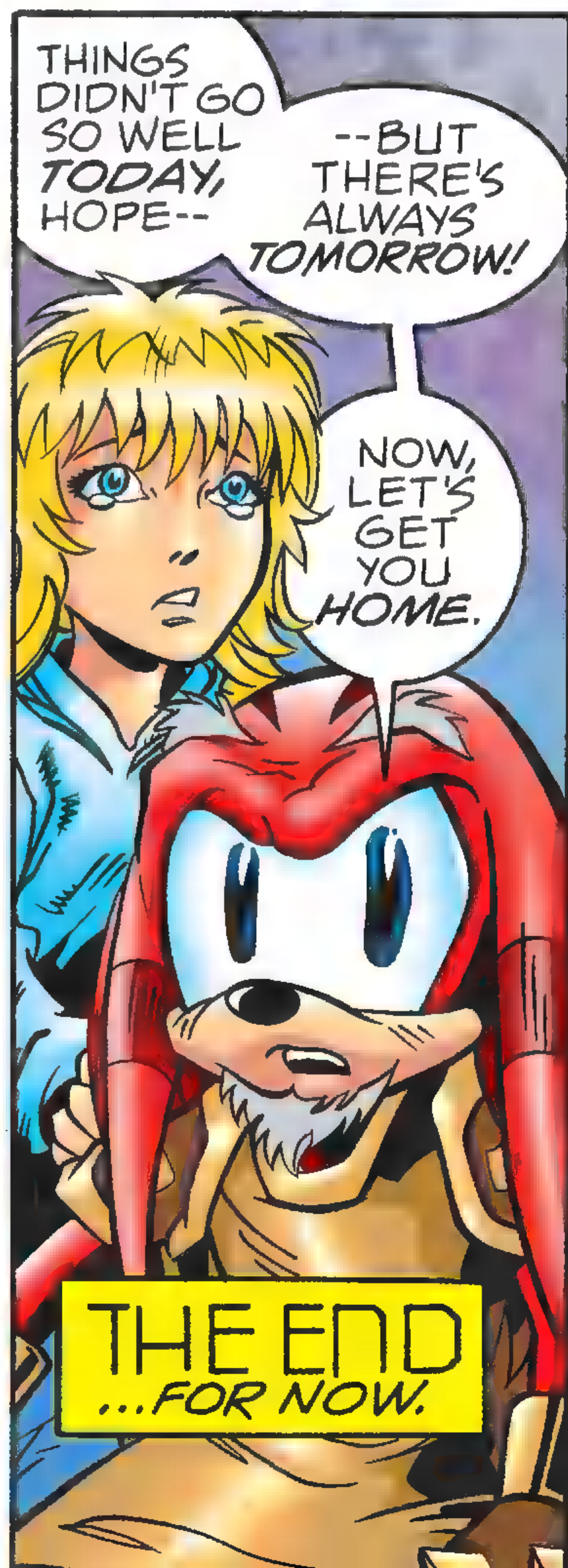
NO, I'M *NOT*! SORRY!

BUT I AM A *FRIEND*!



YOU'RE *NOT* MARIA--

--I DON'T NEED ANY *FRIENDS*!



THINGS DIDN'T GO SO WELL *TODAY*, HOPE--

--BUT THERE'S ALWAYS *TOMORROW*!

NOW, LET'S GET YOU *HOME*.

THE END  
...FOR NOW.





ALL  
RIGHT, GEAR-  
HEADS--

--LISTEN UP  
AND TAKE A GOOD  
LOOK AT THE FIGURE  
ON THE VIDEO-  
MONITOR! HIS  
NAME IS--

# SONIC

## THE HEDGEHOG



--A NOTORIOUS  
TROUBLE-MAKER WHO  
SERVES THE KINGDOM  
OF ACORN! I DESPISE  
HIS BLUE HIDE WITH  
EVERY OUNCE OF MY  
BEING --

--AND SO  
SHOULD  
YOU!

# DOCTOR ROBOTNIK® TRAINING DAY

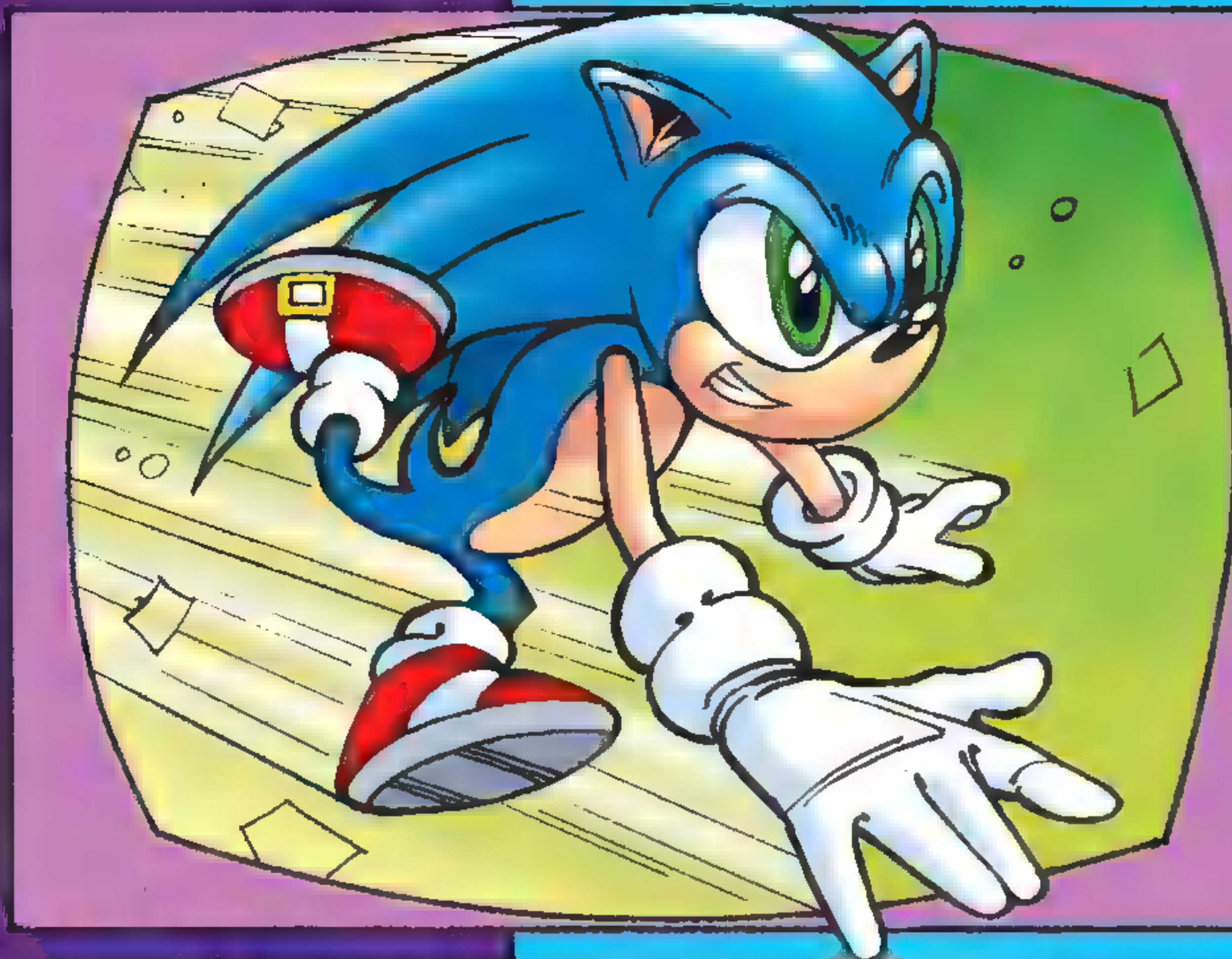
KARL  
BOLLERS-  
STORY

AL BIGLEY-PENCILS

MICHAEL HIGGINS-INKS & LETTERS

JASON JENSEN-COLORS

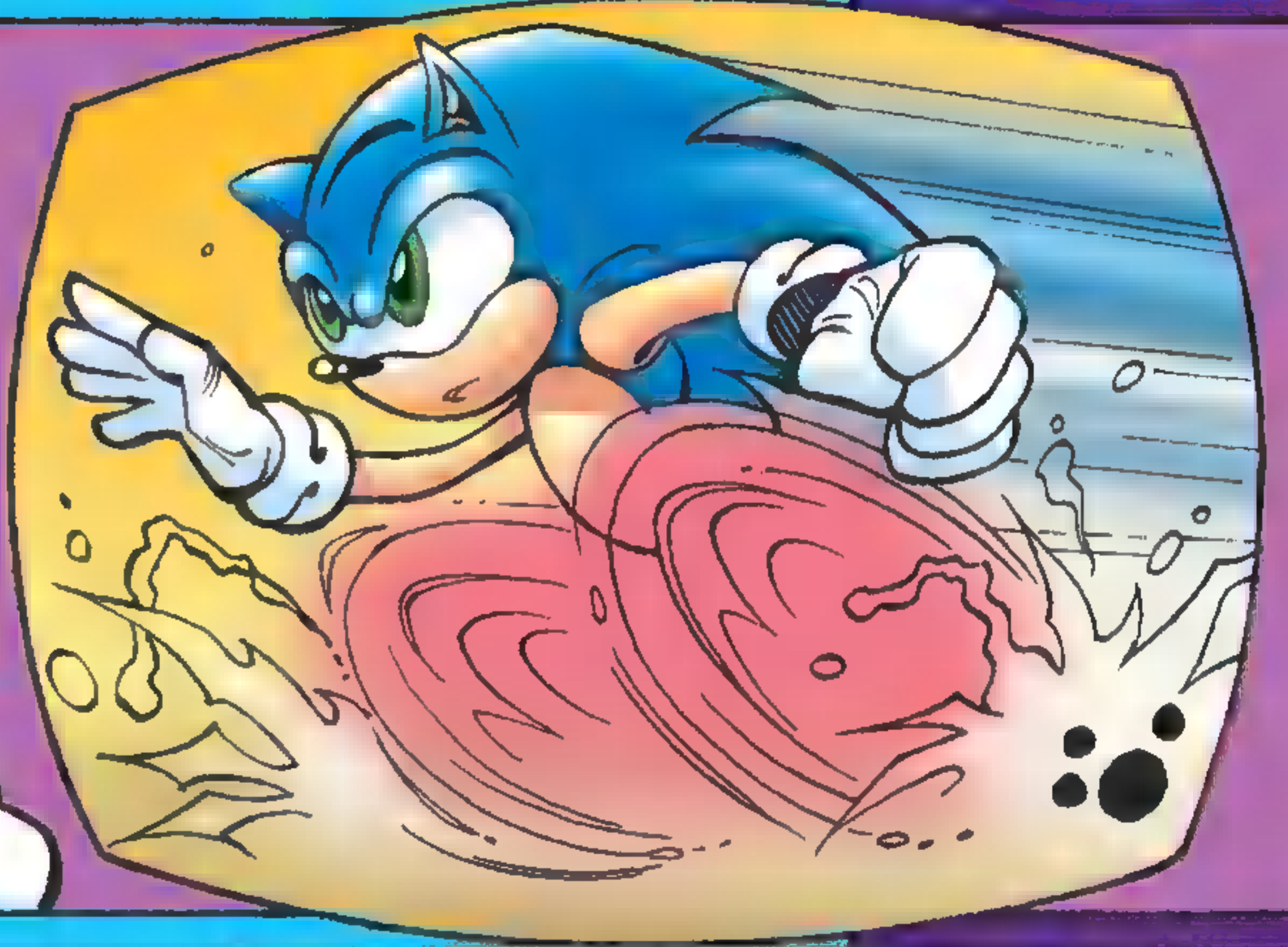




MAKE NO *MISTAKE* —  
WHETHER HE'S USING HIS SUPER  
*SPEED* TO PERFORM A FIGURE  
EIGHT *MOVE*, WHIRLWIND  
*ATTACK*--

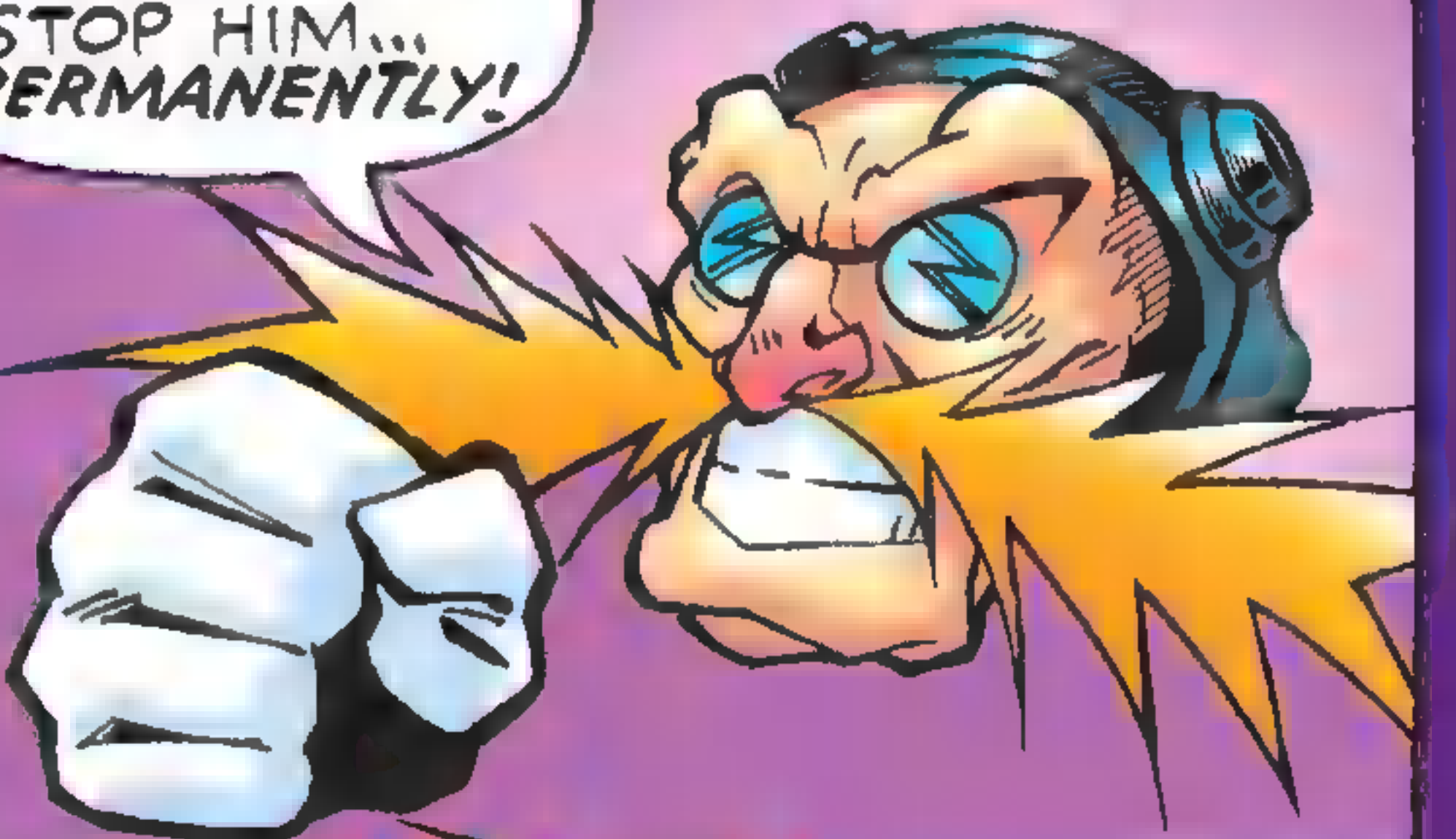


--OR THE EVER-*CLASSIC* SPIN  
DASH, *DON'T* LET THE FANCY  
*FOOTWORK* FOOL YOU--



--*THIS* ROTTEN APPLE DESIRES  
NOTHING *MORE* THAN THE FALL  
OF MY *EGGMAN EMPIRE*--

--AND WON'T  
STOP *UNTIL* WE  
STOP HIM...  
*PERMANENTLY!*

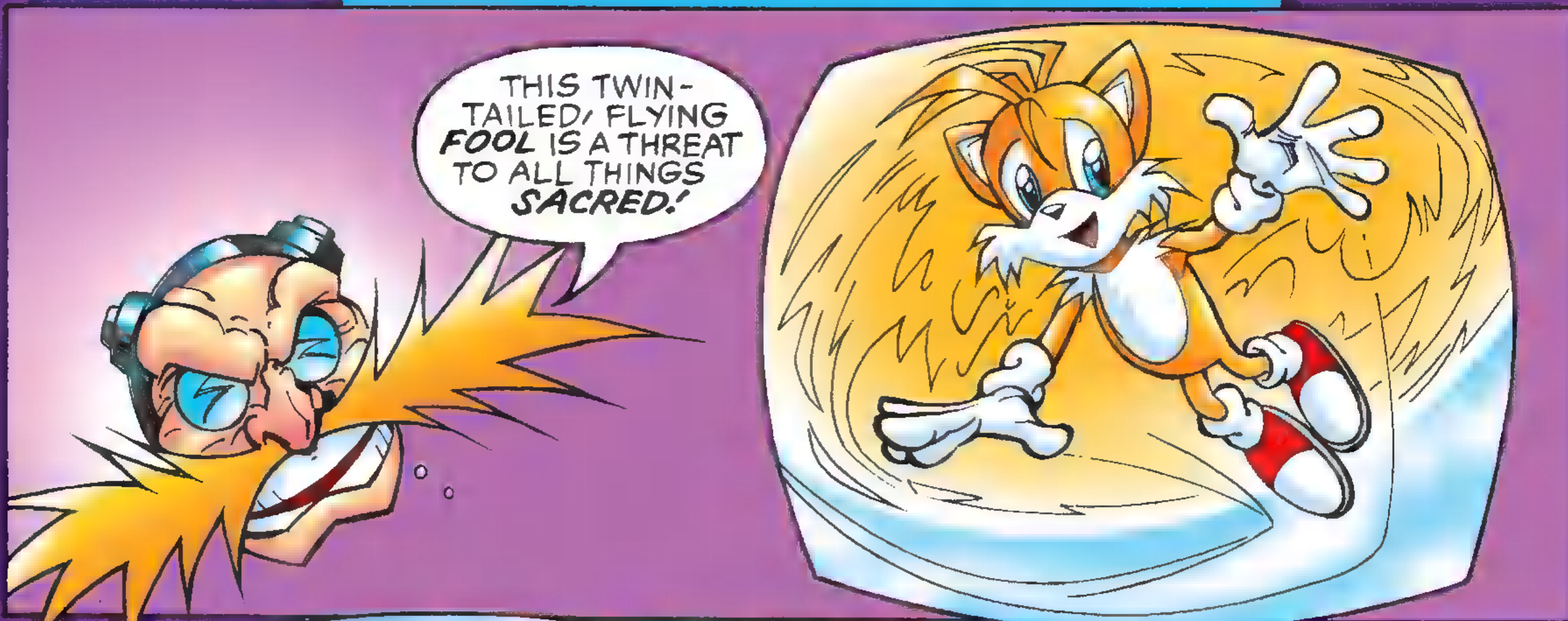


NEXT UP IS HIS  
ABLE *ACCOMPLICE*,  
MILES PROWER,  
A. K. A. --

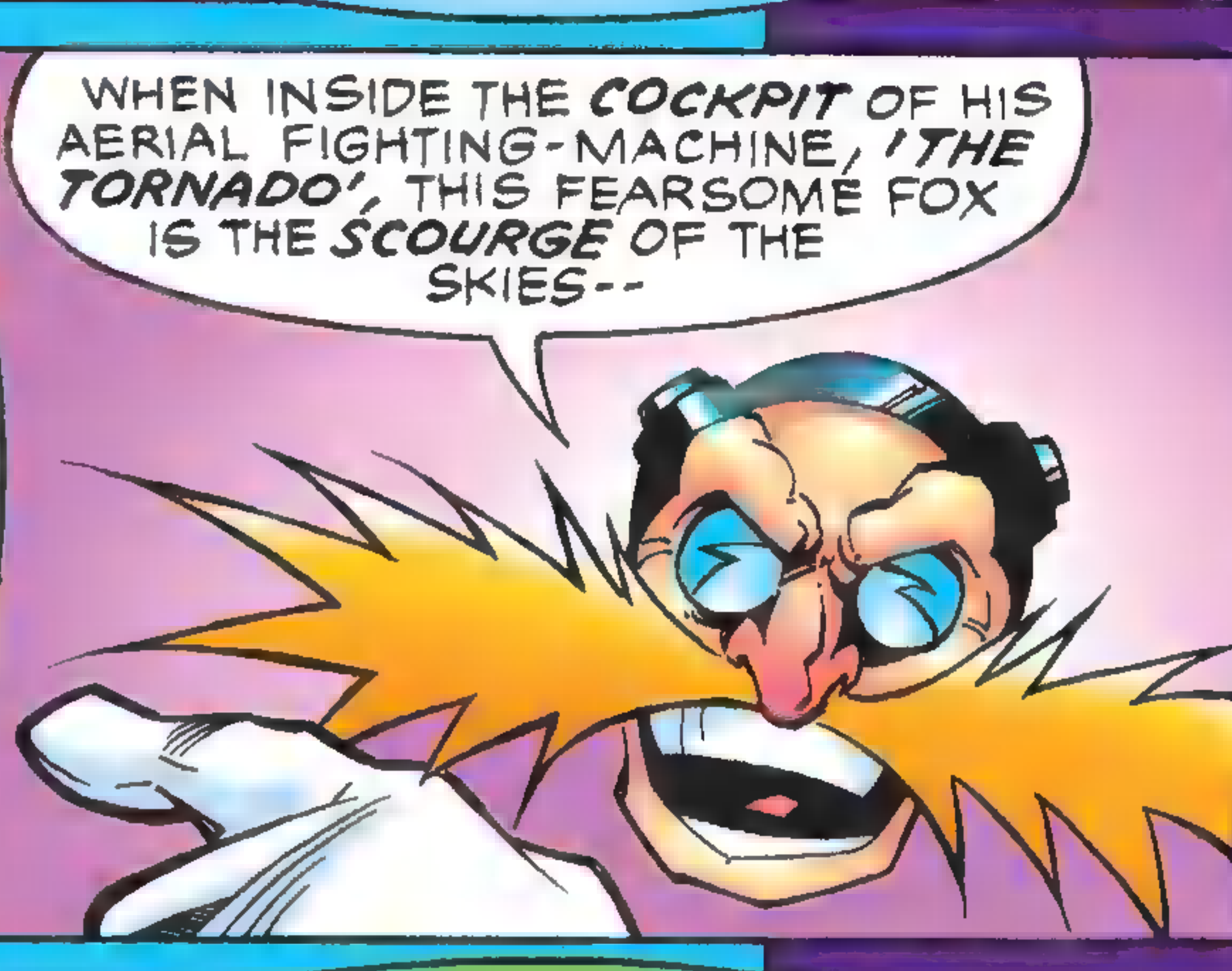
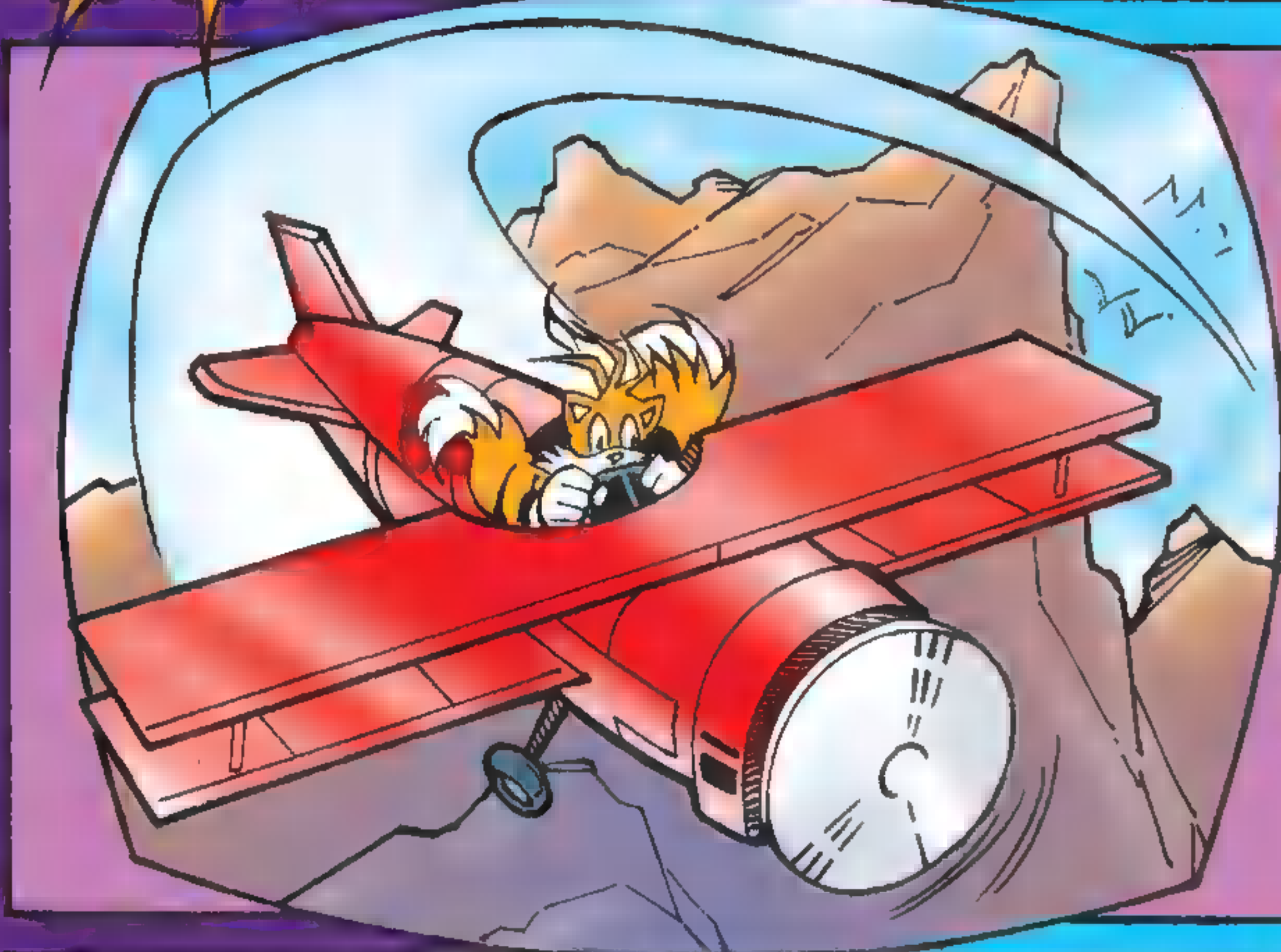
# TAILS







THIS TWIN-TAILED, FLYING FOOL IS A THREAT TO ALL THINGS SACRED!

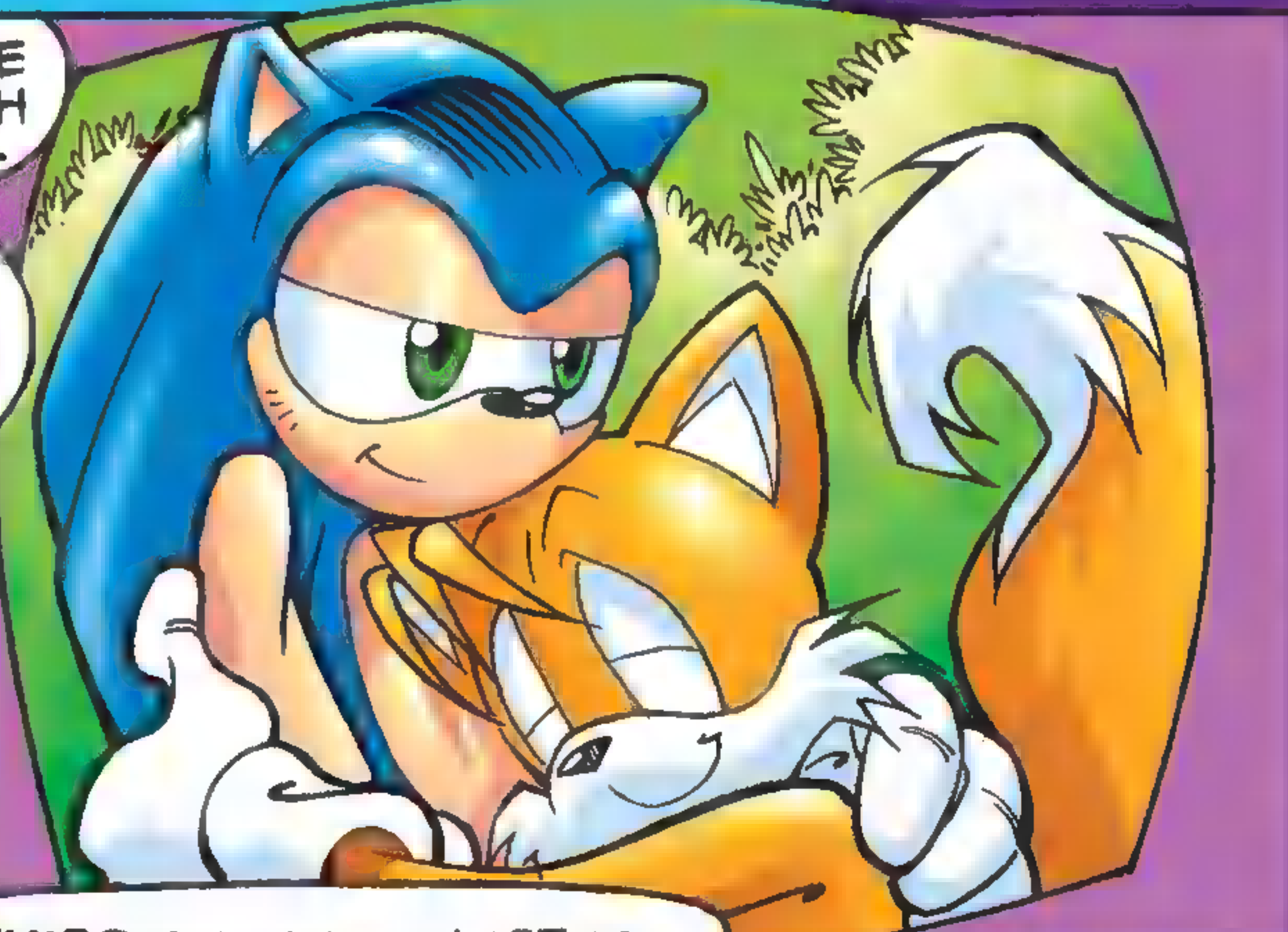


WHEN INSIDE THE COCKPIT OF HIS AERIAL FIGHTING-MACHINE, 'THE TORNADO', THIS FEARSOME FOX IS THE SCOURGE OF THE SKIES--

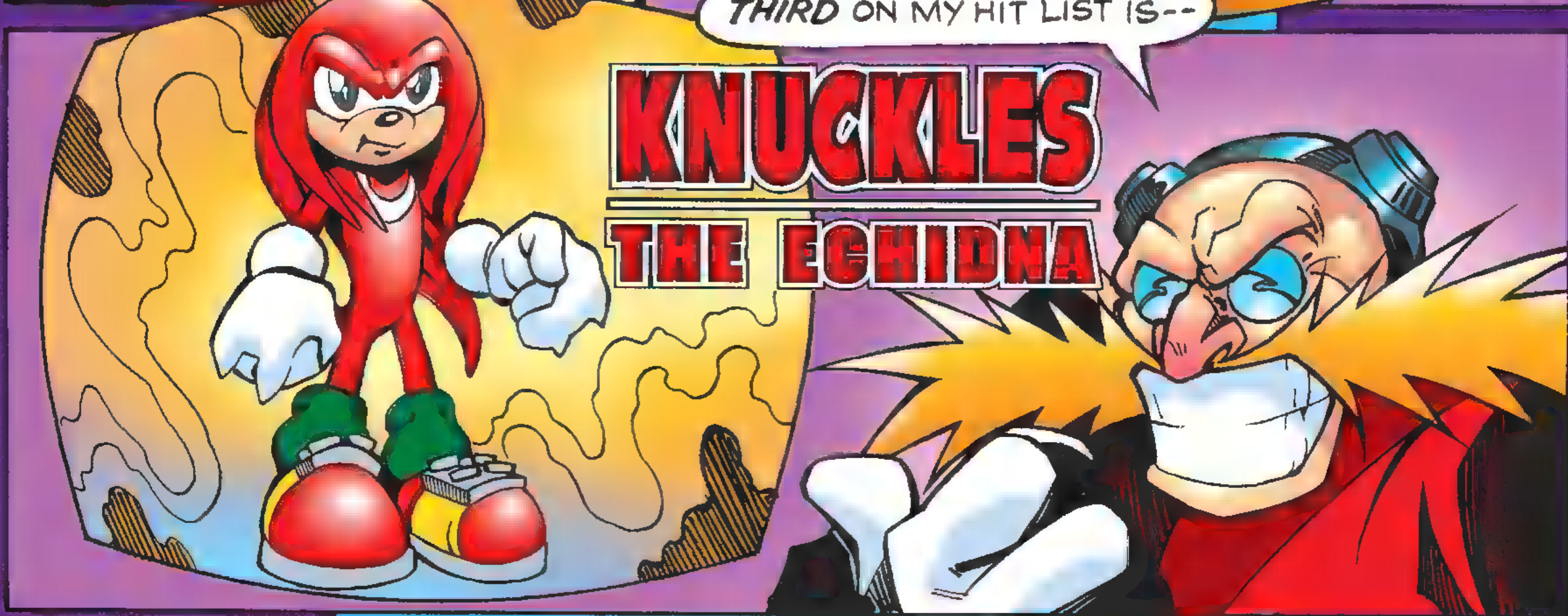


--AND THE ONLY THING THAT SICKENS ME MORE THAN HIS PRODIGY-LIKE SKILL WITH MACHINERY OF ALL SHAPES AND SIZES--

--IS HIS NAUSEA-INDUCING FRIENDSHIP WITH THAT MALEVOLENT HEDGEHOG!

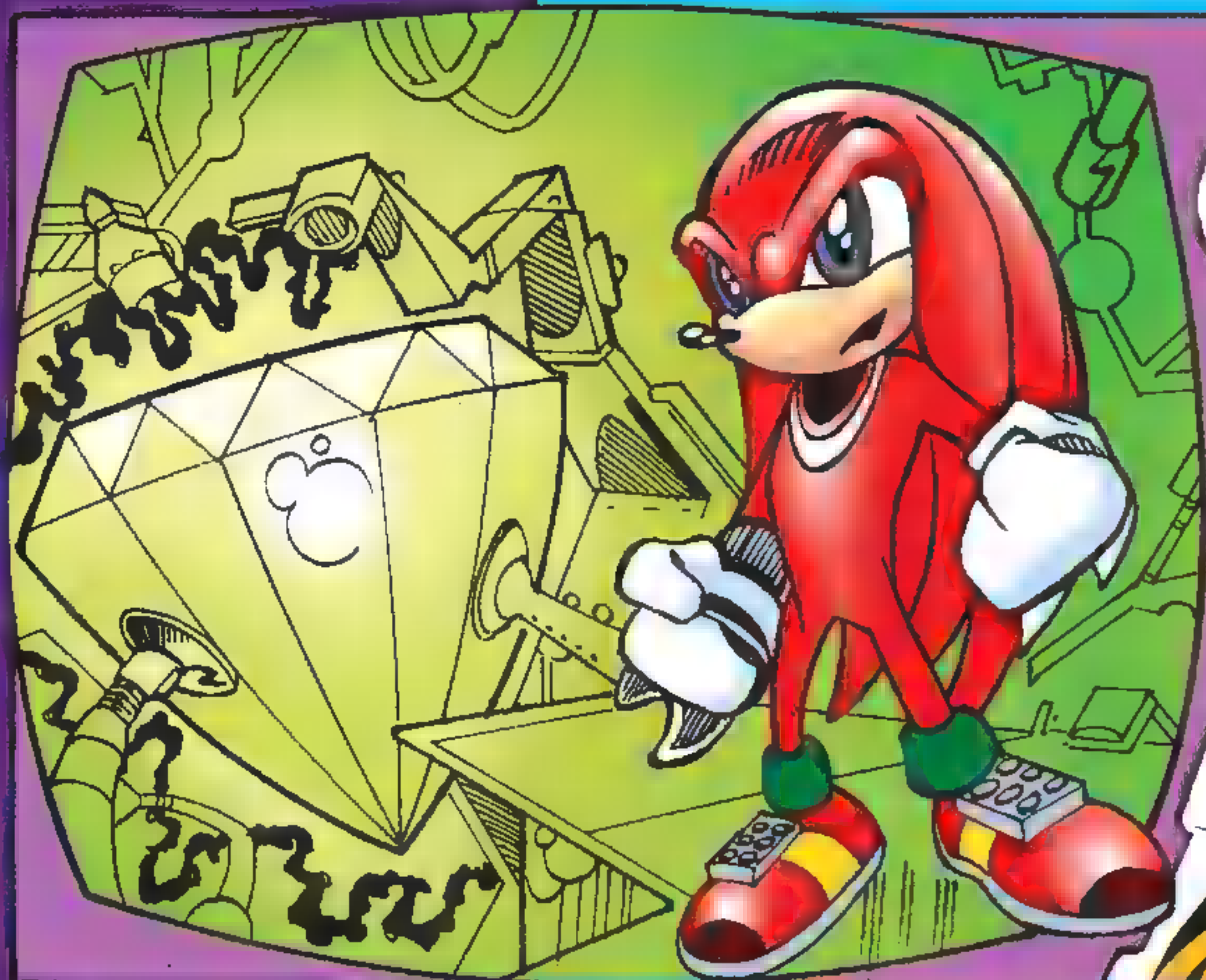


THIRD ON MY HIT LIST IS--



**KNUCKLES**  
**THE ECHIDNA**

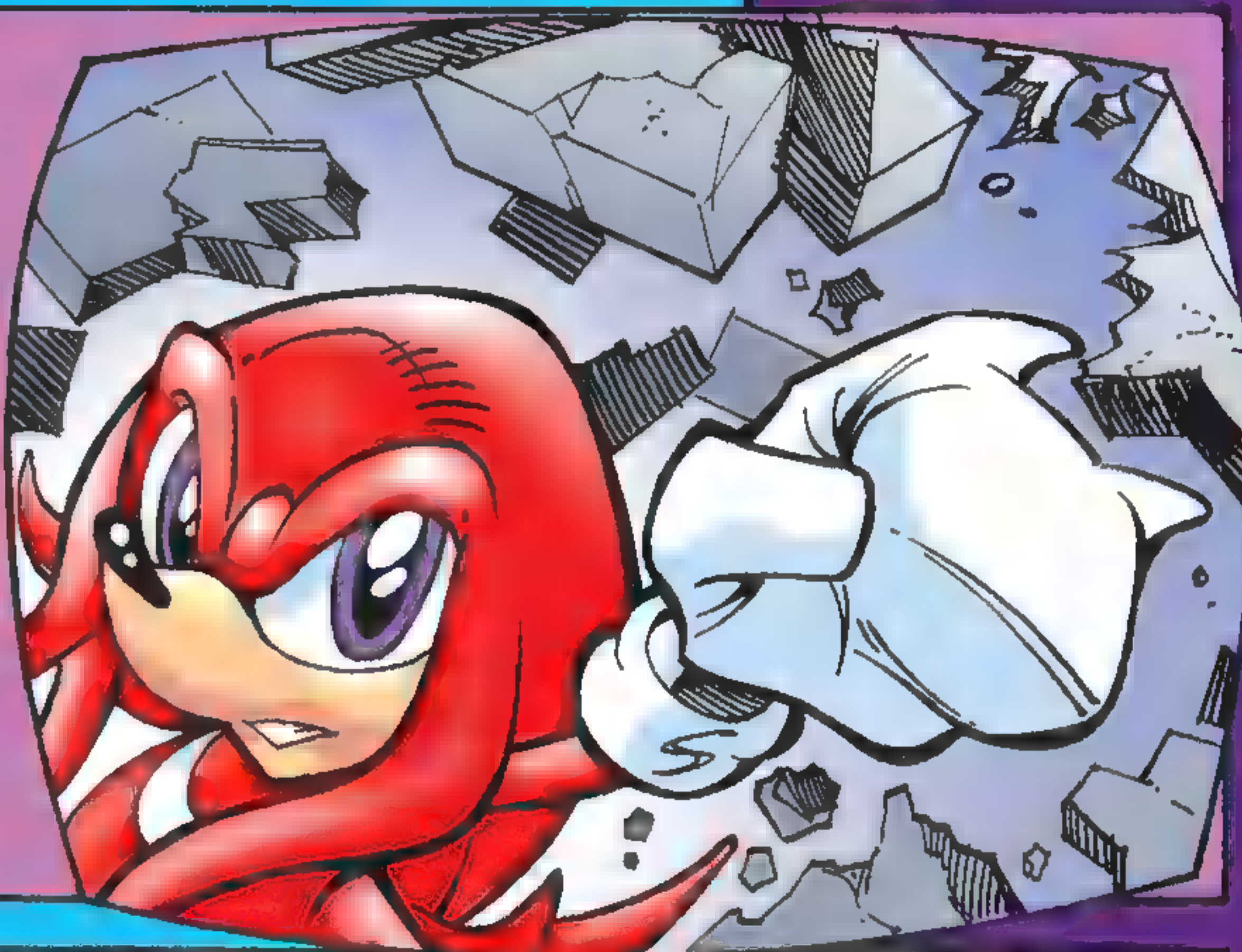




THIS FORMER  
GUARDIAN OF THE  
POWERFUL *MASTER*  
EMERALD--

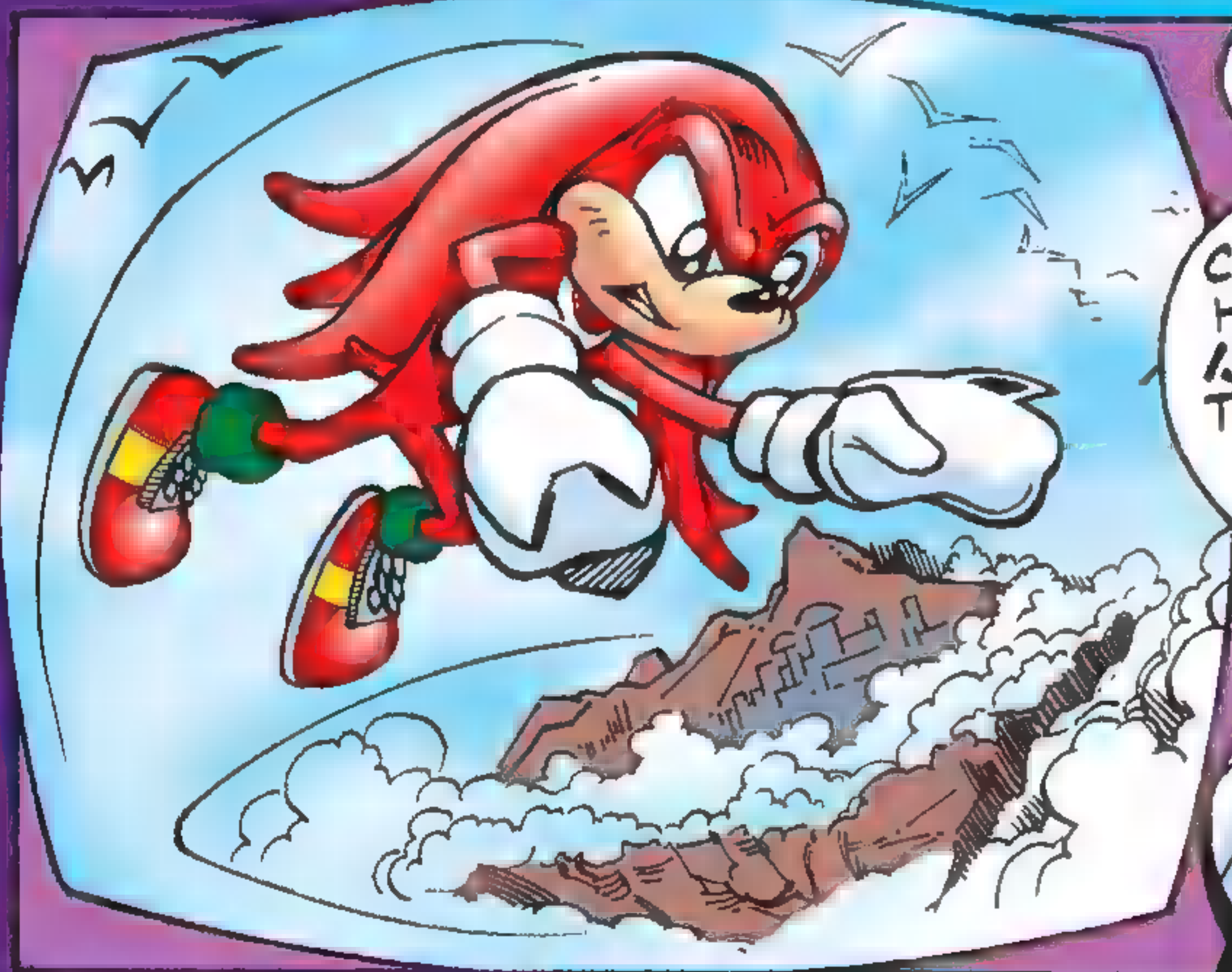


--IN ADDITION TO *GLIDING*, USES HIS  
ENHANCED *STRENGTH* TO PUNCH,  
DIG, AND CLIMB THROUGH *ANY*  
AND ALL OBSTACLES!



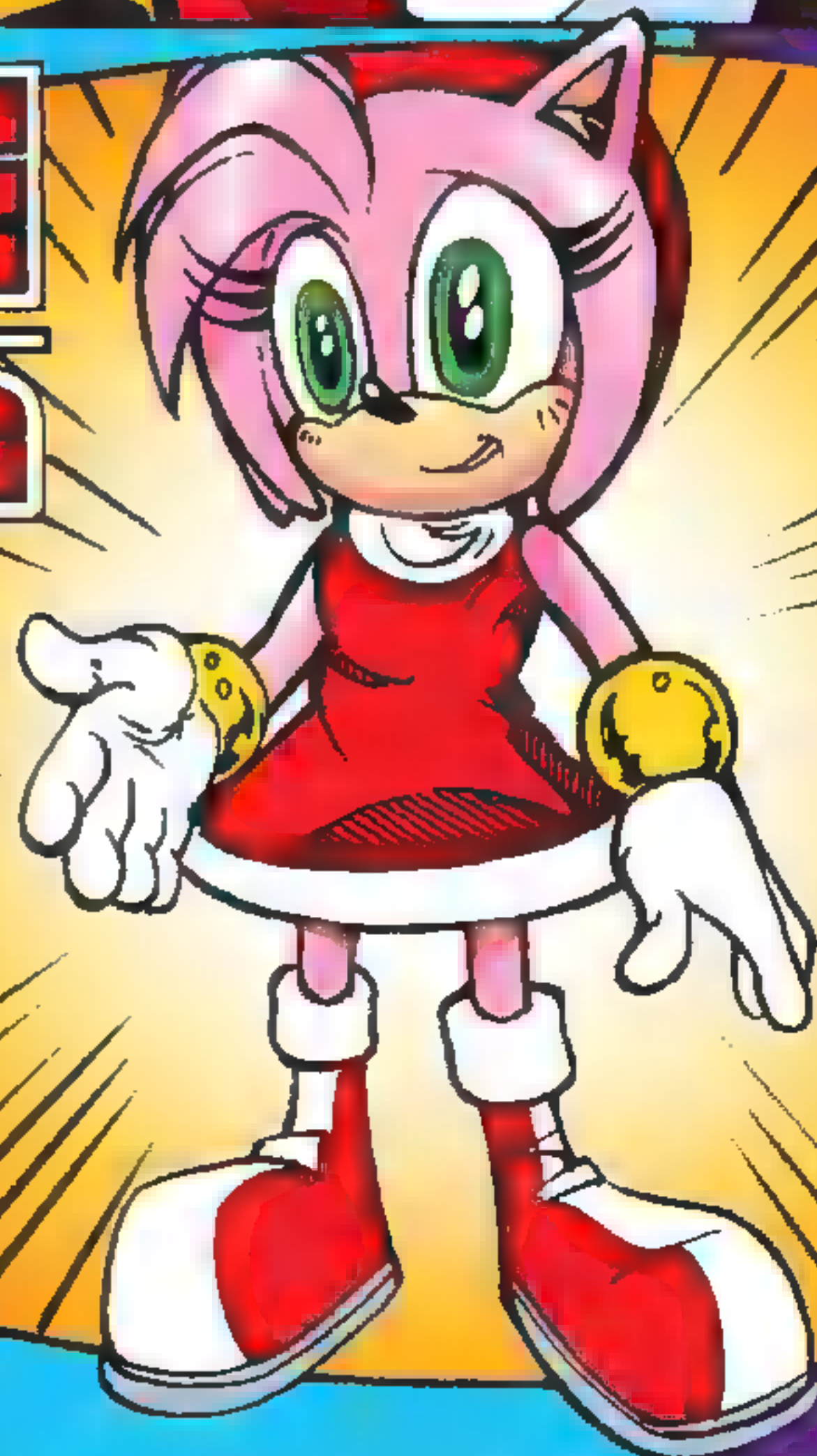
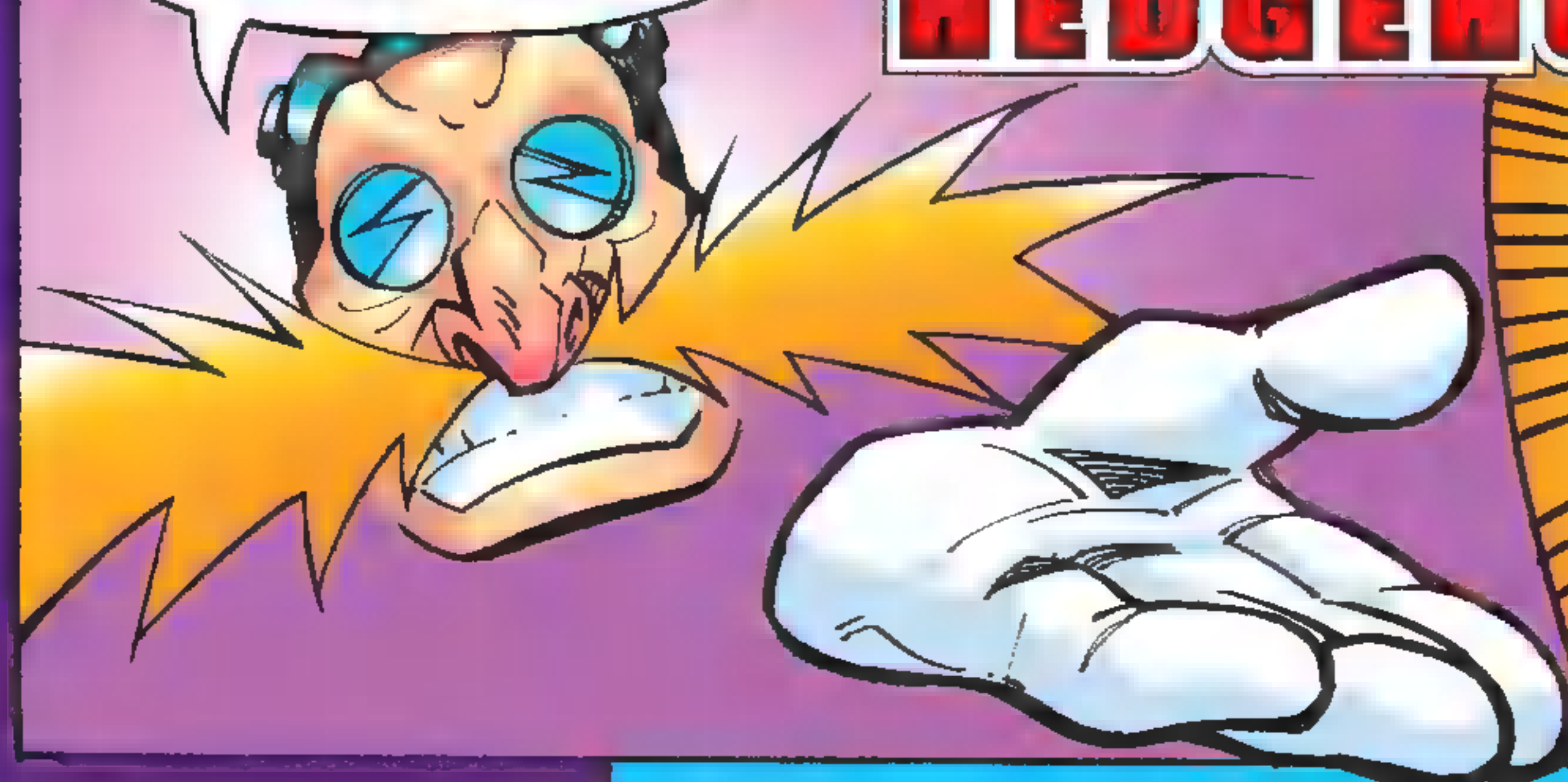
I'D *STICK* TO STRICTLY LONG-RANGE  
ATTACKS IF I WERE YOU!

ALTHOUGH HE'S  
CURRENTLY *AWAY* FROM  
HIS HOME ON *ANGEL*  
ISLAND SERVING WITH  
THE KINGDOM OF ACORN,  
KNUCKLES IS A  
LEVEL-A THREAT!



LAST, BUT *CERTAINLY*  
NOT THE LEAST GOOD-  
LOOKING OF THE *BUNCH*,  
IS A RIDDLE WRAPPED  
IN A *RED* DRESS--

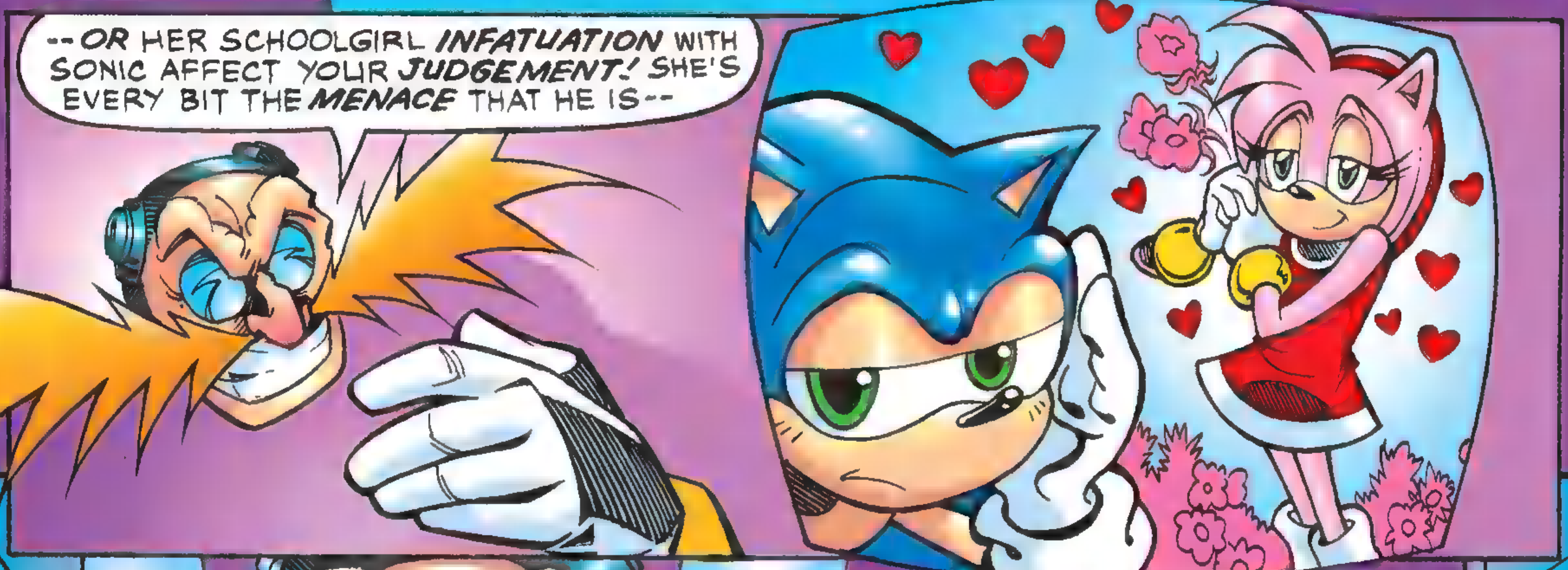
**AMY ROSE**  
**HEDGEHOG**







SHE'S A **CRAFTY** ONE, I SAY! DON'T LET HER LOVE OF **SHOPPING MALLS**--



--OR HER SCHOOLGIRL **INFATUATION** WITH SONIC AFFECT YOUR **JUDGEMENT**? SHE'S EVERY BIT THE **MENACE** THAT HE IS--



--PLUS HER **TAROT CARD** DECK AND MYSTICAL **PICO PICO** HAMMER MAKE HER A **ROSE** WITH VERY DANGEROUS **THORNS**!



THESE VILE **VERMIN** ARE YOUR WORST **ENEMIES** AND ARE TO BE TERMINATED ON **SIGHT**! DO I MAKE MYSELF **CLEAR**?

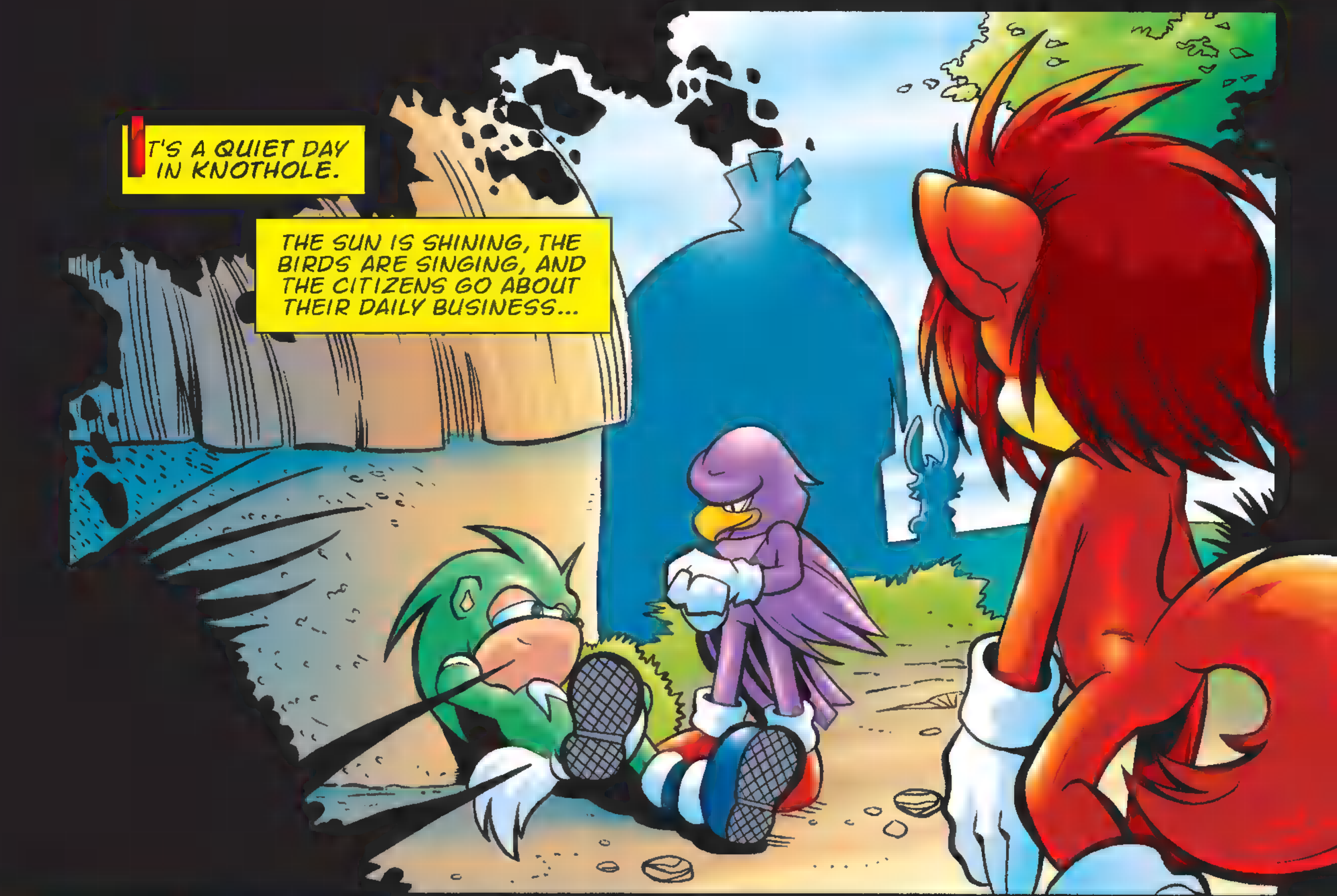
YES-DOCTOR-ROBOTNIK...

**END**



IT'S A QUIET DAY  
IN KNOTHOLE.

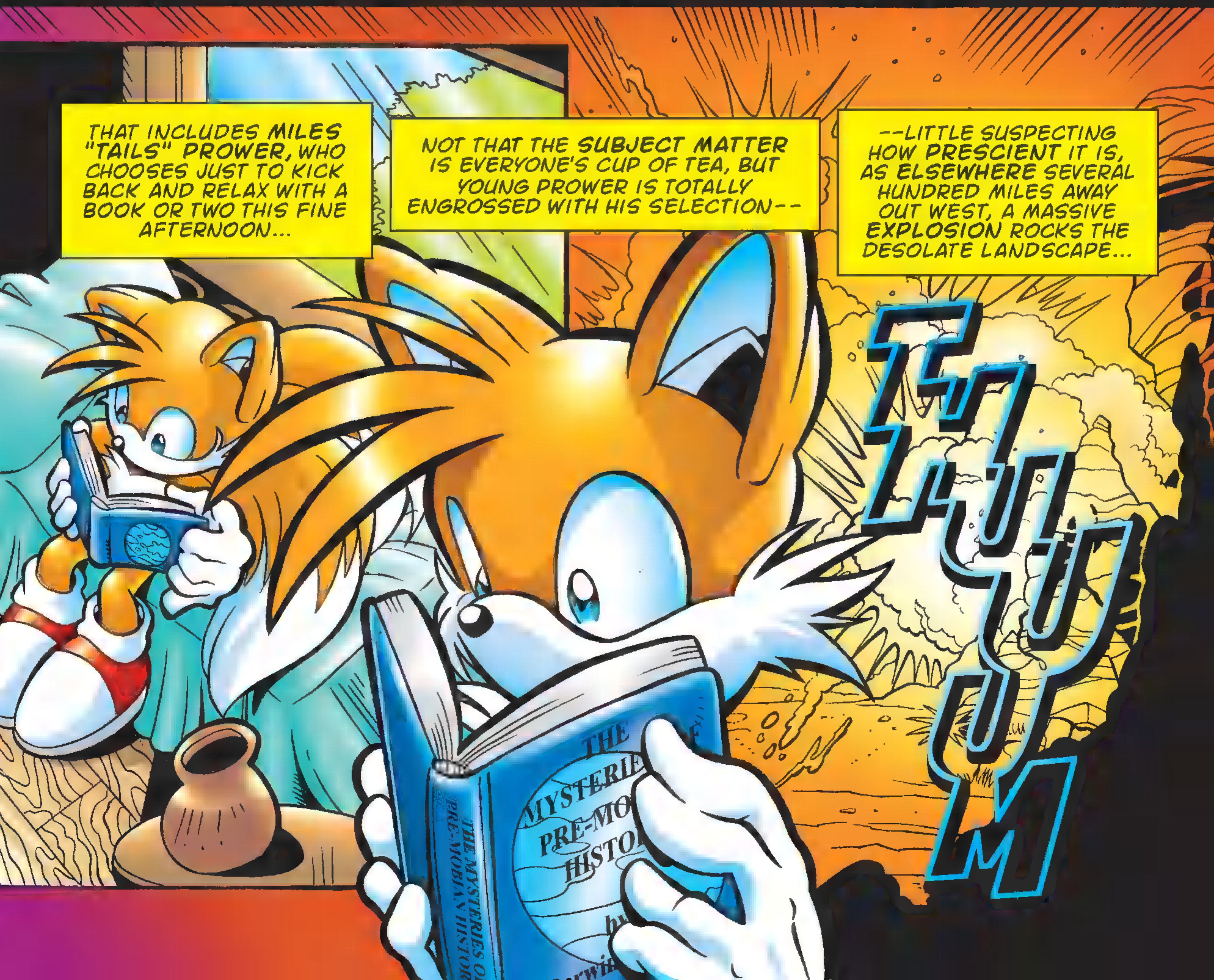
THE SUN IS SHINING, THE  
BIRDS ARE SINGING, AND  
THE CITIZENS GO ABOUT  
THEIR DAILY BUSINESS...



THAT INCLUDES MILES  
"TAILS" PROWER, WHO  
CHOOSES JUST TO KICK  
BACK AND RELAX WITH A  
BOOK OR TWO THIS FINE  
AFTERNOON...

NOT THAT THE SUBJECT MATTER  
IS EVERYONE'S CUP OF TEA, BUT  
YOUNG PROWER IS TOTALLY  
ENGROSSED WITH HIS SELECTION--

--LITTLE SUSPECTING  
HOW PRESCIENT IT IS,  
AS ELSEWHERE SEVERAL  
HUNDRED MILES AWAY  
OUT WEST, A MASSIVE  
EXPLOSION ROCKS THE  
DESOLATE LANDSCAPE...





AS THE SHOCKWAVES  
REVERBERATE AND THE DUST  
ATTEMPTS TO SETTLE, BACK  
IN KNOTHOLE WE FIND

# SONIC

## THE HEDGEHOG

ENGAGING IN A FRIENDLY  
GAME OF DARTS WITH  
SEVERAL FRIENDS...

BET YA  
CAN'T EVEN  
HIT THE  
BOARD!

ASH!  
IT'S  
ALL IN  
FUN!

RIGHT ON  
MINA, BUT ASH  
DOES HAVE A  
POINT!

JUST BECAUSE  
SUGAH-HOG IS FAST  
DOESN'T MEAN HE'S  
ACCURATE!

In answer to  
a zillion reader  
requests--

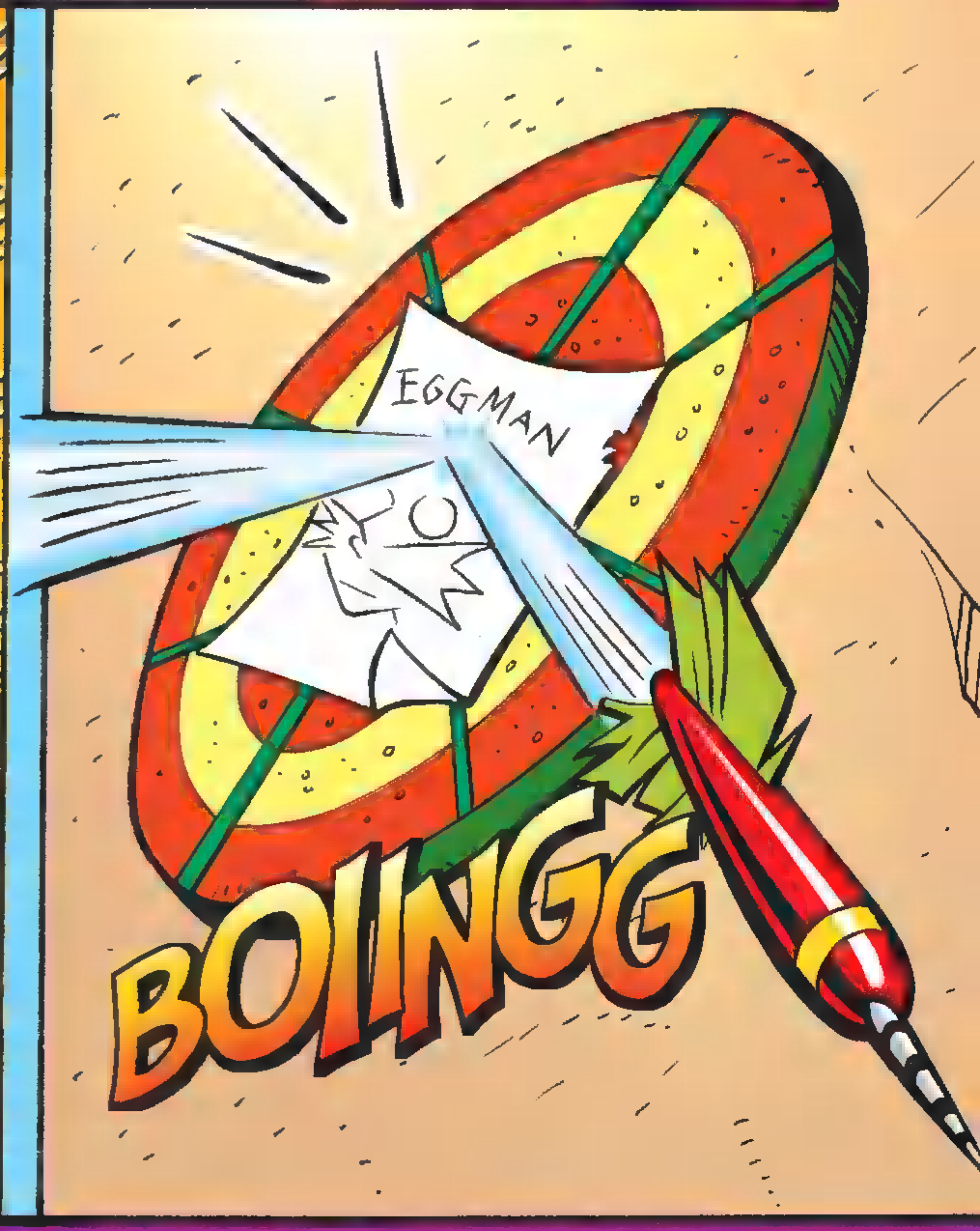
WRITER  
KEN PENDERS  
ARTIST  
DAWN BEST

# HARBINGER

INKER  
JIM AMASH  
LETTERER  
JEFF POWELL  
COLORIST  
JASON JENSEN



AND IF YOU  
DOUBT--  
--JUST  
WATCH!







I WUZ  
ROBBED!!



ALRIGHT,  
MOUTH!  
LET'S  
PUT UP OR  
SHUT UP!  
YOUR  
TURN!

A GLUTTON  
FOR PUNISHMENT,  
AREN'T YOU?

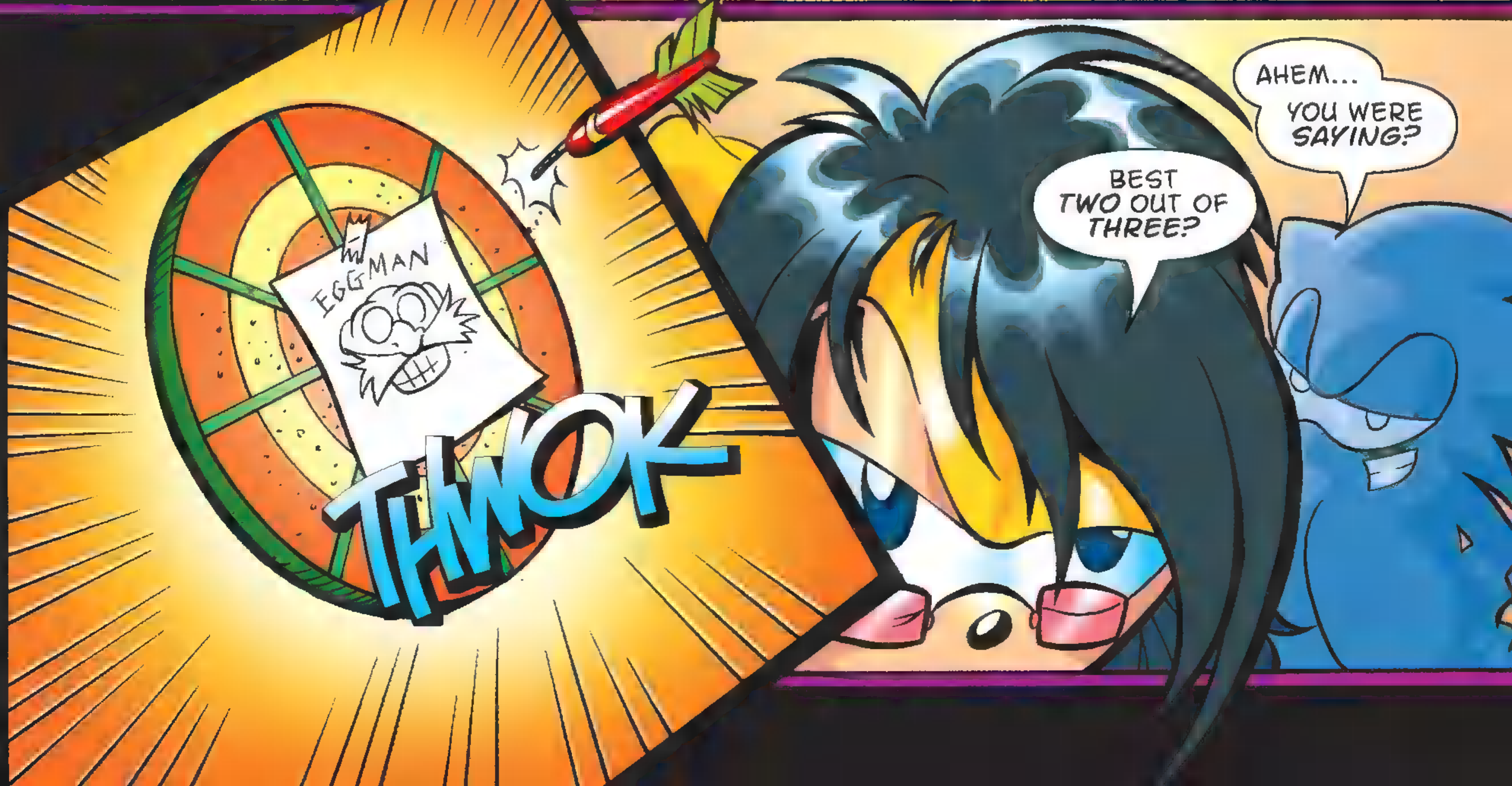


YOU SOUND  
LIKE A ROBOTNIK  
WANNABE!

JUST  
WATCH AND WEEP,  
LEADFOOT!

YOU'RE  
ABOUT TO GET  
TRASHED!

HOOO-EEEEEE!!  
THE BOYS ARE  
STRUTTIN'?!  
BIG TIME,  
BUNNIE!



AHEM...  
YOU WERE  
SAYING?

BEST  
TWO OUT OF  
THREE?

THWOK

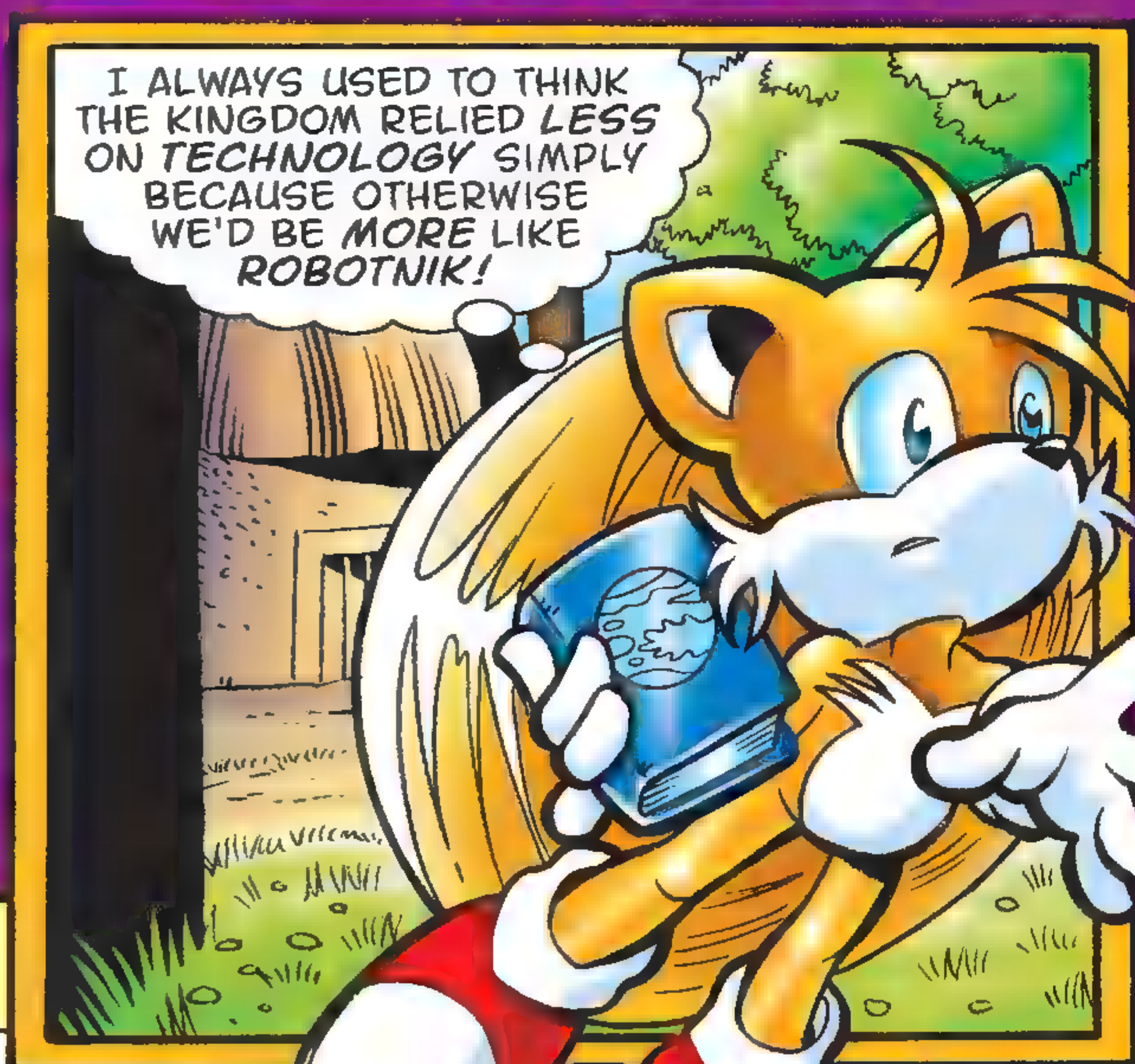




SIZZLING  
SWATBOTS!!

WHO'DA  
THOUGHT?

COULD  
IT BE  
TRUE?



I ALWAYS USED TO THINK  
THE KINGDOM RELIED LESS  
ON TECHNOLOGY SIMPLY  
BECAUSE OTHERWISE  
WE'D BE MORE LIKE  
ROBOTNIK!



ROTOR! GOT  
A MINUTE?

HI,  
TOMMY!

HELLO,  
MILES!

I'M TAKING  
SOME SEISMIC  
READINGS!

ASTONISHING!!

"A SINGLE SEISMIC EVENT  
WITH A HIGH SPIKE AND ZERO  
AFTERSHOCKS OUT IN THE  
MIDDLE OF ESSENTIALLY  
NOWHERE!"

SO  
WHAT DOES IT  
MEAN?

SOMEBODY--  
OR SOME THING--  
A FORCE OF SOME  
KIND--EXERTED  
ENOUGH ENERGY AT  
ONE POINT TO DO  
SERIOUS DAMAGE  
TO KNOTHOLE!

SO YOU  
THINK IT'S A  
THREAT?





WE  
NEED TO FIND  
OUT--



WE COULD CHECK IT  
OUT IN MY BIPLANE  
TORNADO!

IT LACKS  
THE CAPACITY TO  
HANDLE THE  
PERSONNEL  
AND EQUIPMENT  
WE MIGHT  
NEED!



YOU ANTICIPATE  
TROUBLE?

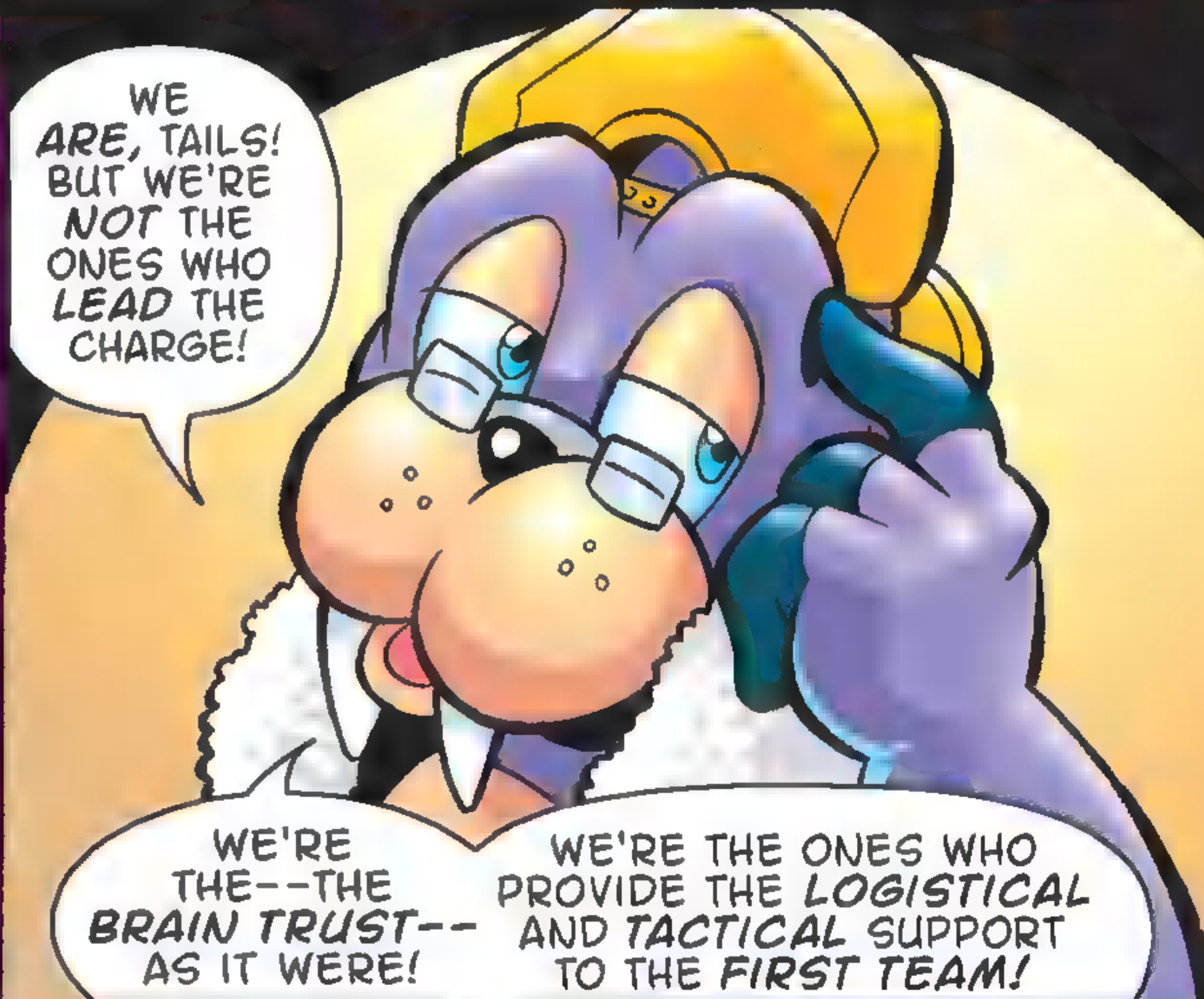
NO, TOMMY,  
JUST BEING  
PRAGMATIC!

IF THERE IS  
AN ENEMY OUT  
THERE, WE'LL NEED  
AT LEAST SONIC  
AND BUNNIE  
WITH US!



WHAT  
ARE WE?  
CHOPPED  
LIVER?!

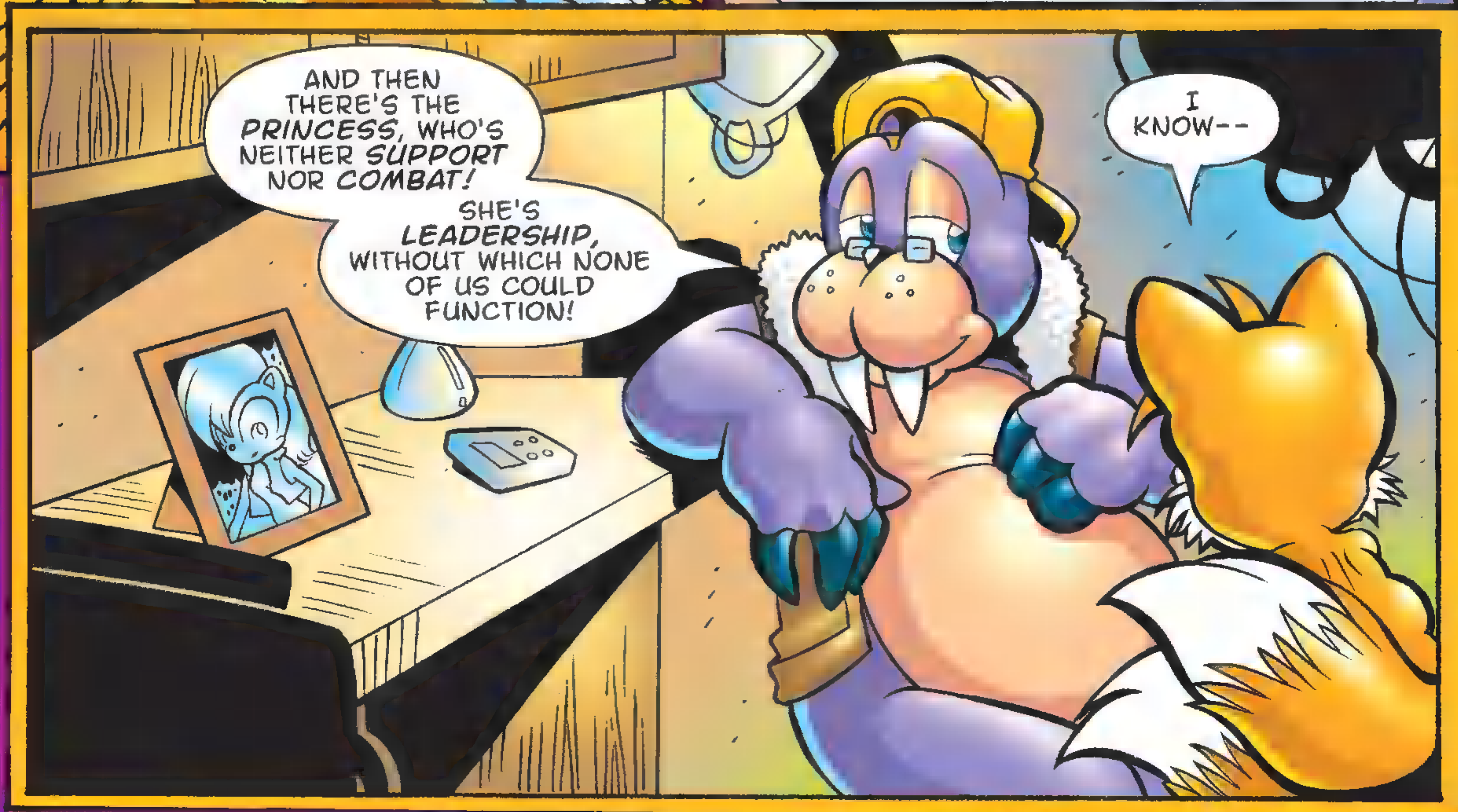
I THOUGHT  
WE'RE FREEDOM  
FIGHTERS!



WE  
ARE, TAILS!  
BUT WE'RE  
NOT THE  
ONES WHO  
LEAD THE  
CHARGE!

WE'RE  
THE--THE  
BRAIN TRUST--  
AS IT WERE!

WE'RE THE ONES WHO  
PROVIDE THE LOGISTICAL  
AND TACTICAL SUPPORT  
TO THE FIRST TEAM!



AND THEN  
THERE'S THE  
PRINCESS, WHO'S  
NEITHER SUPPORT  
NOR COMBAT!

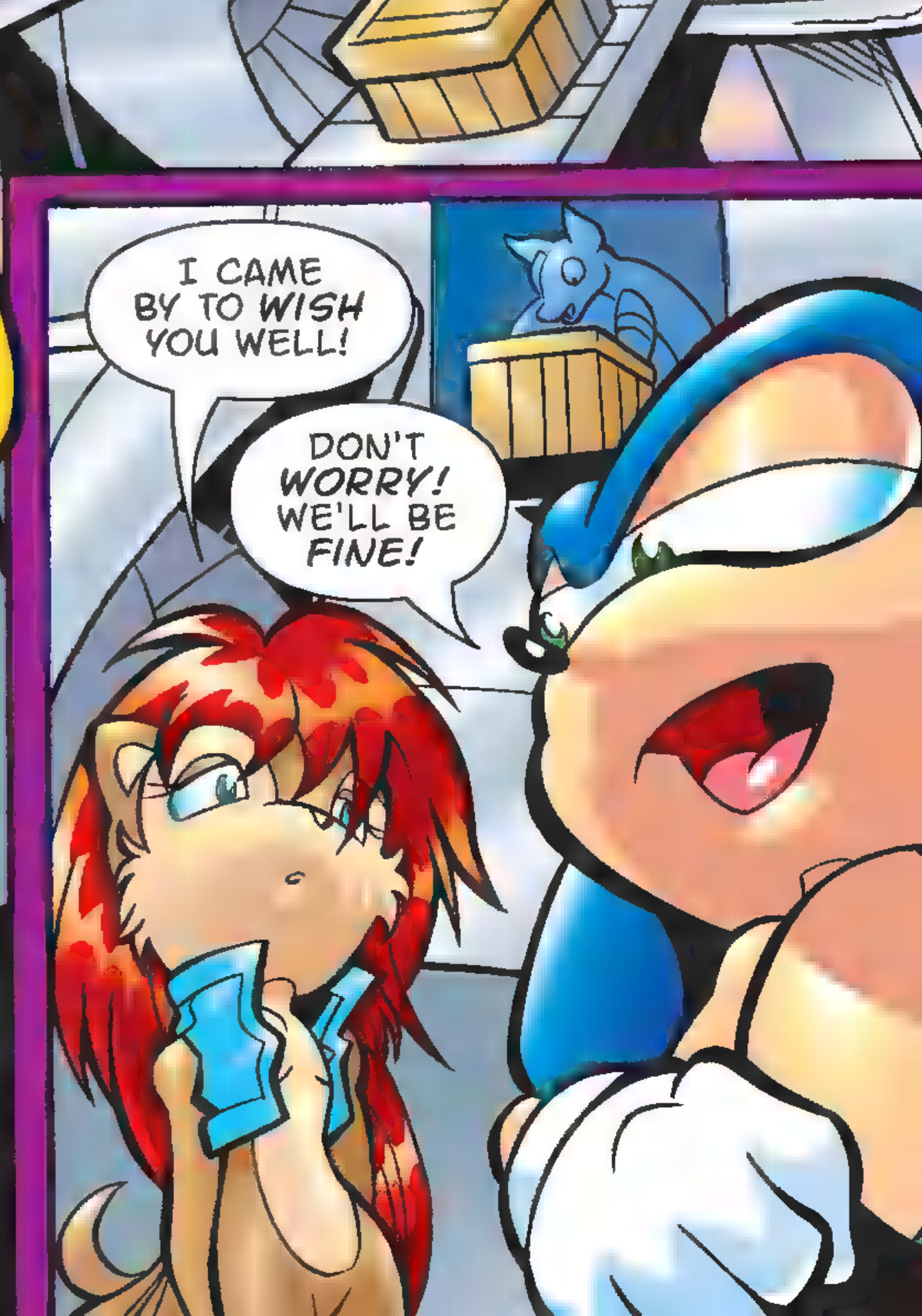
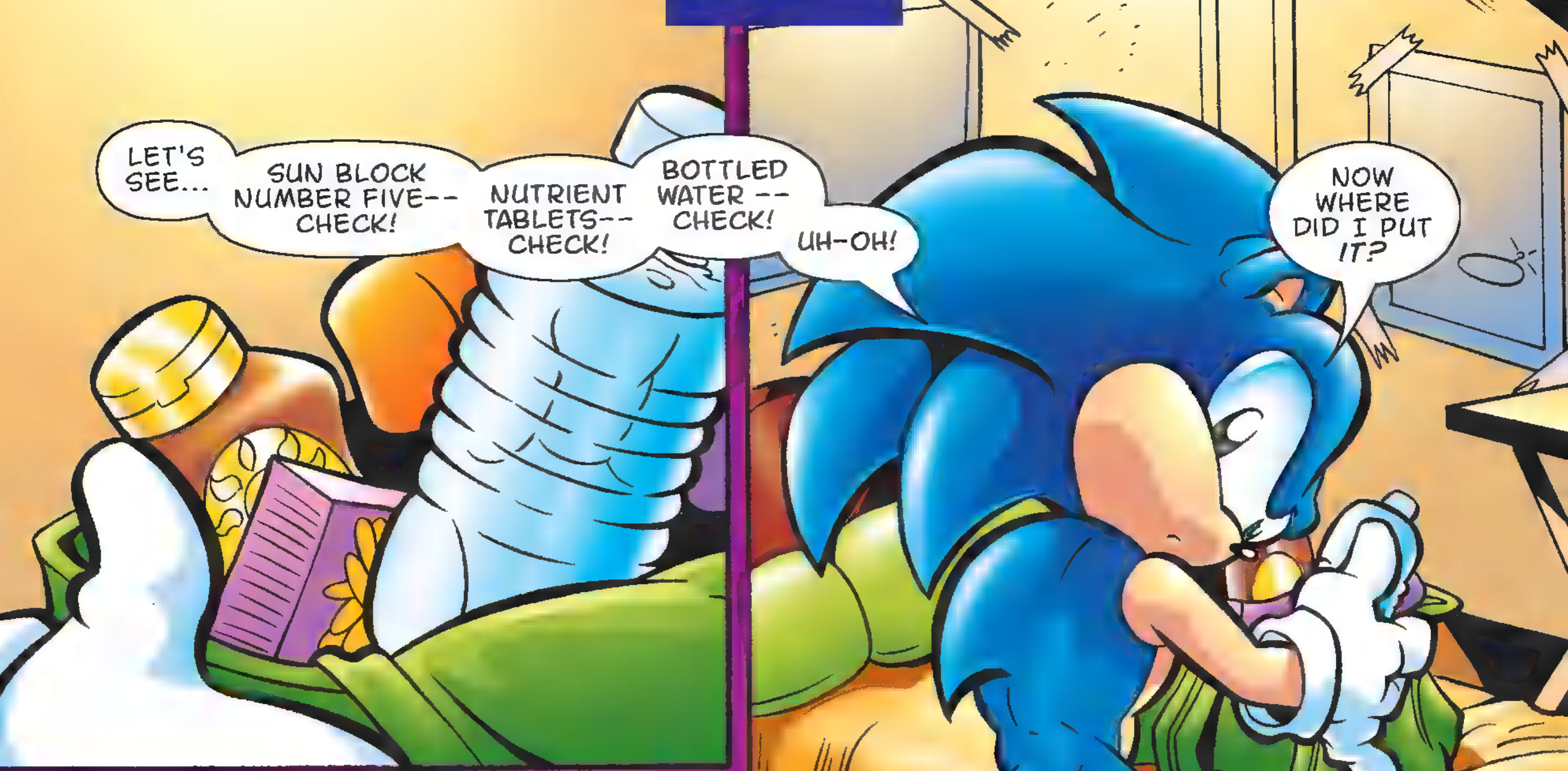
SHE'S  
LEADERSHIP,  
WITHOUT WHICH NONE  
OF US COULD  
FUNCTION!

I  
KNOW--

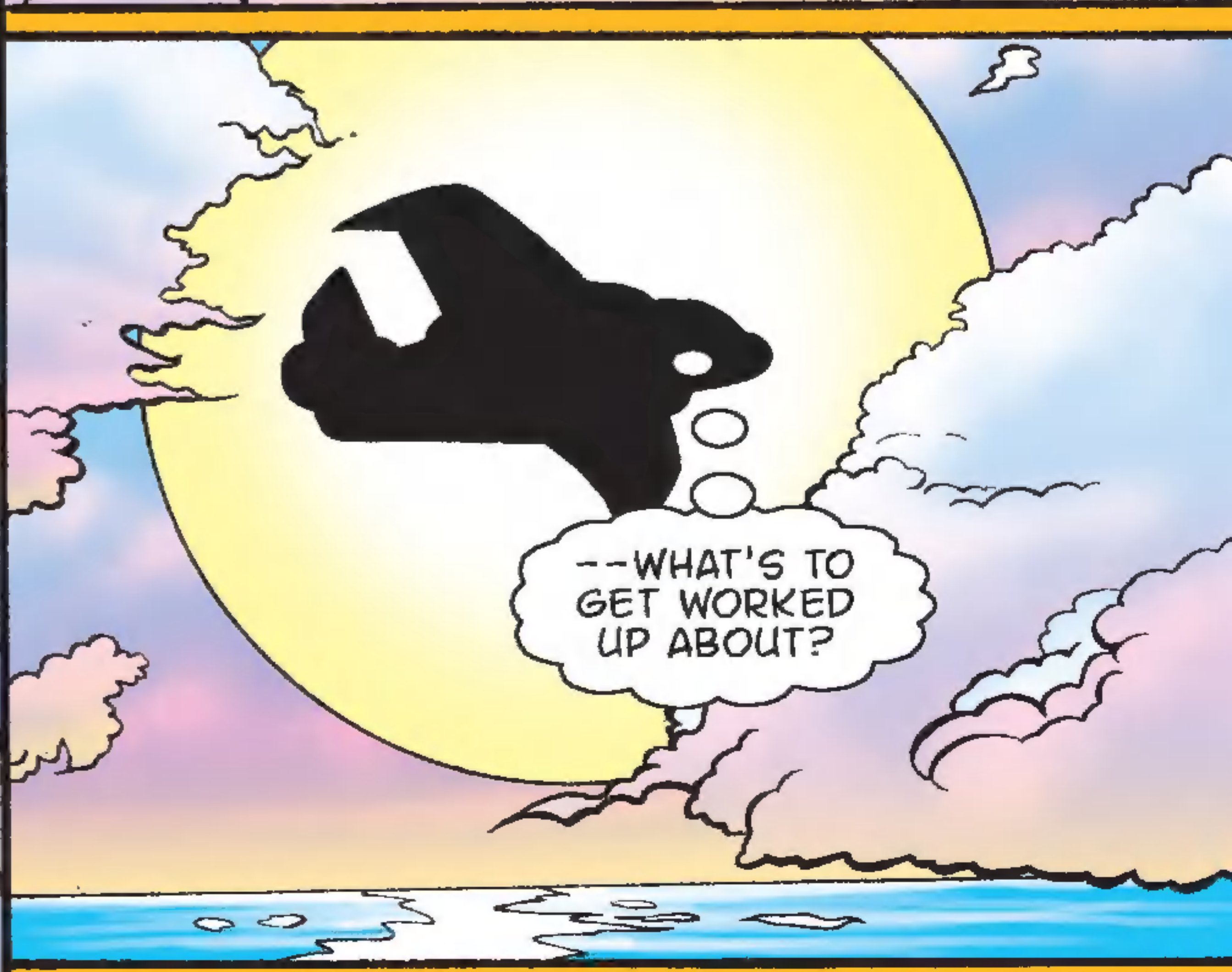
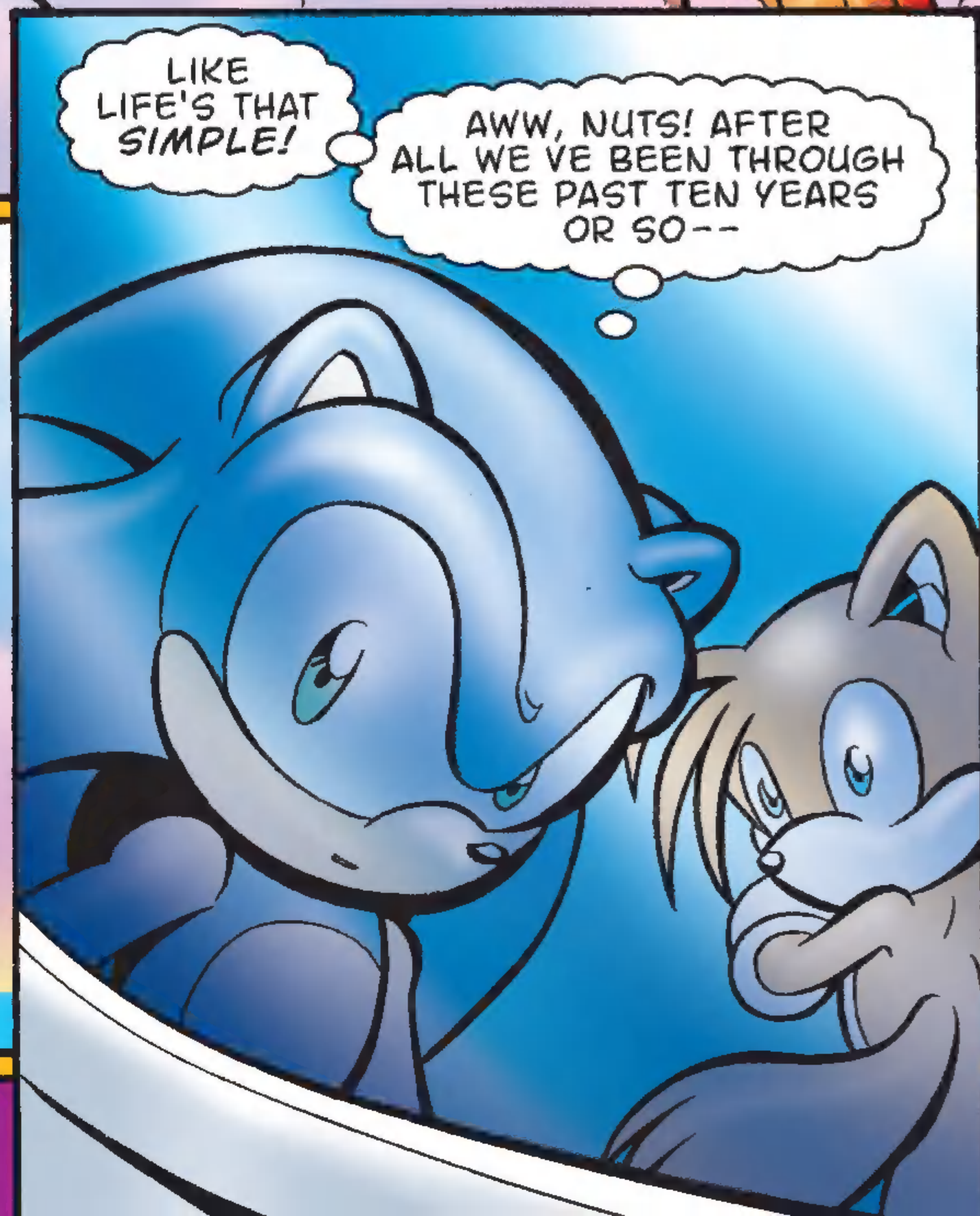
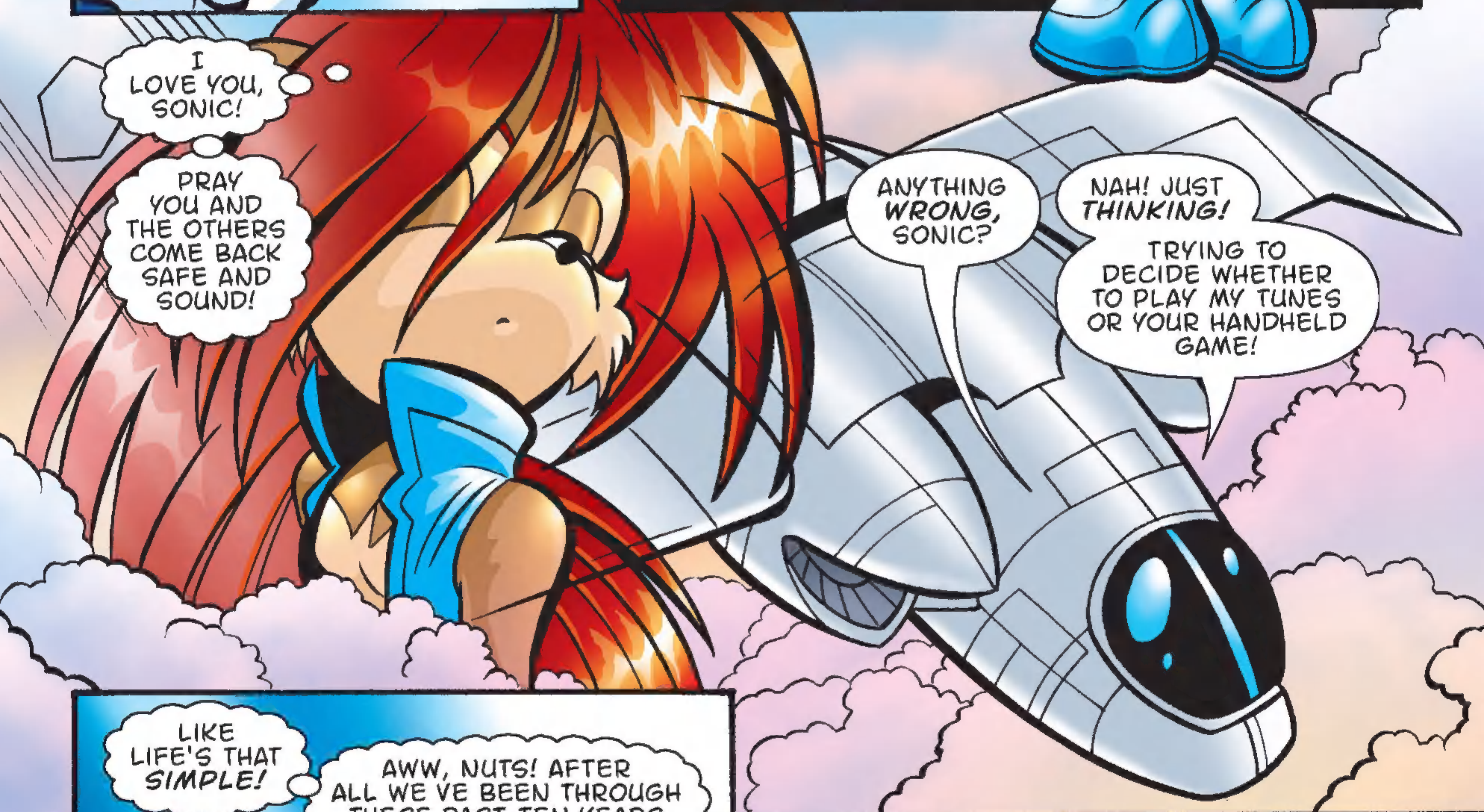
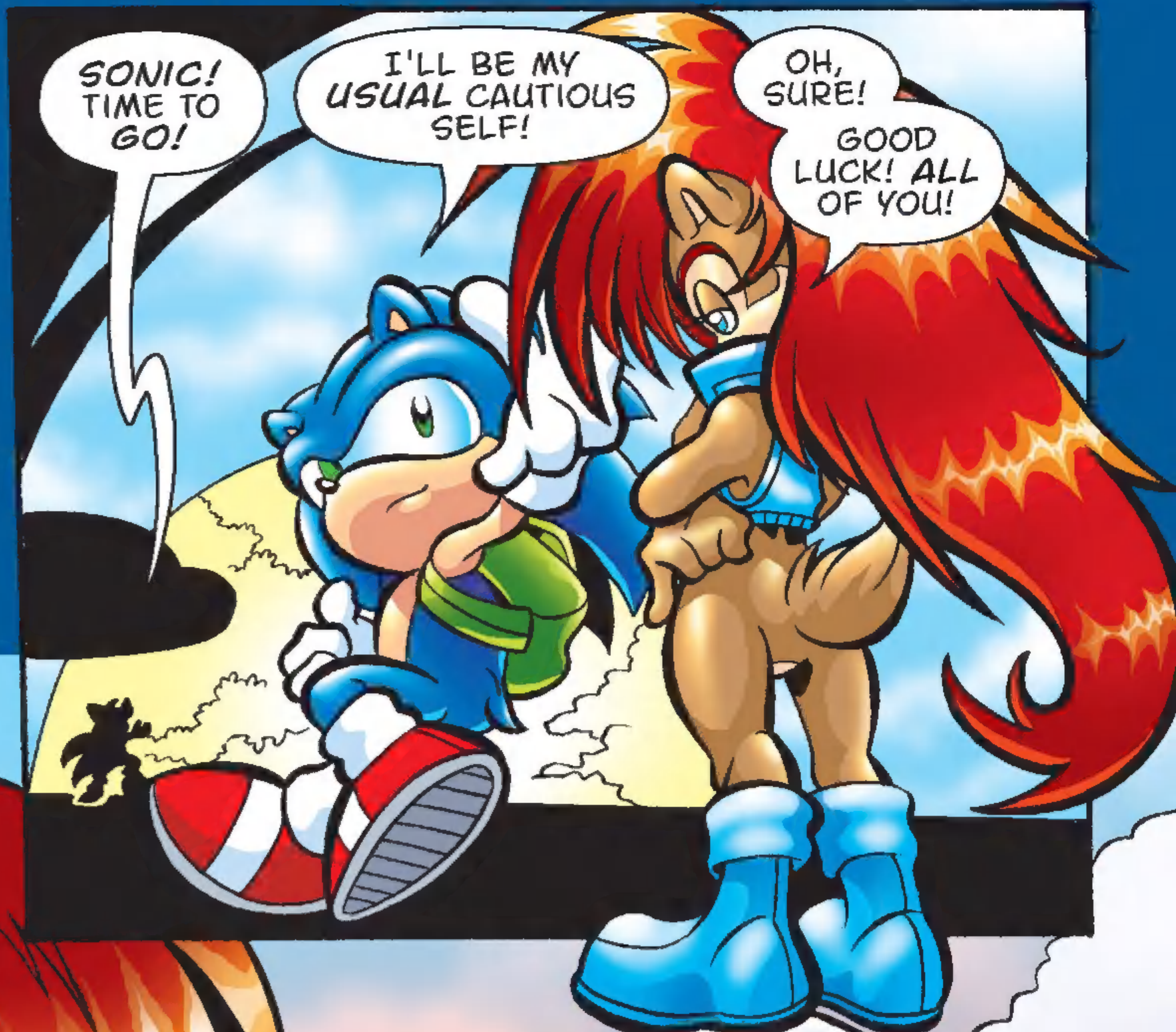






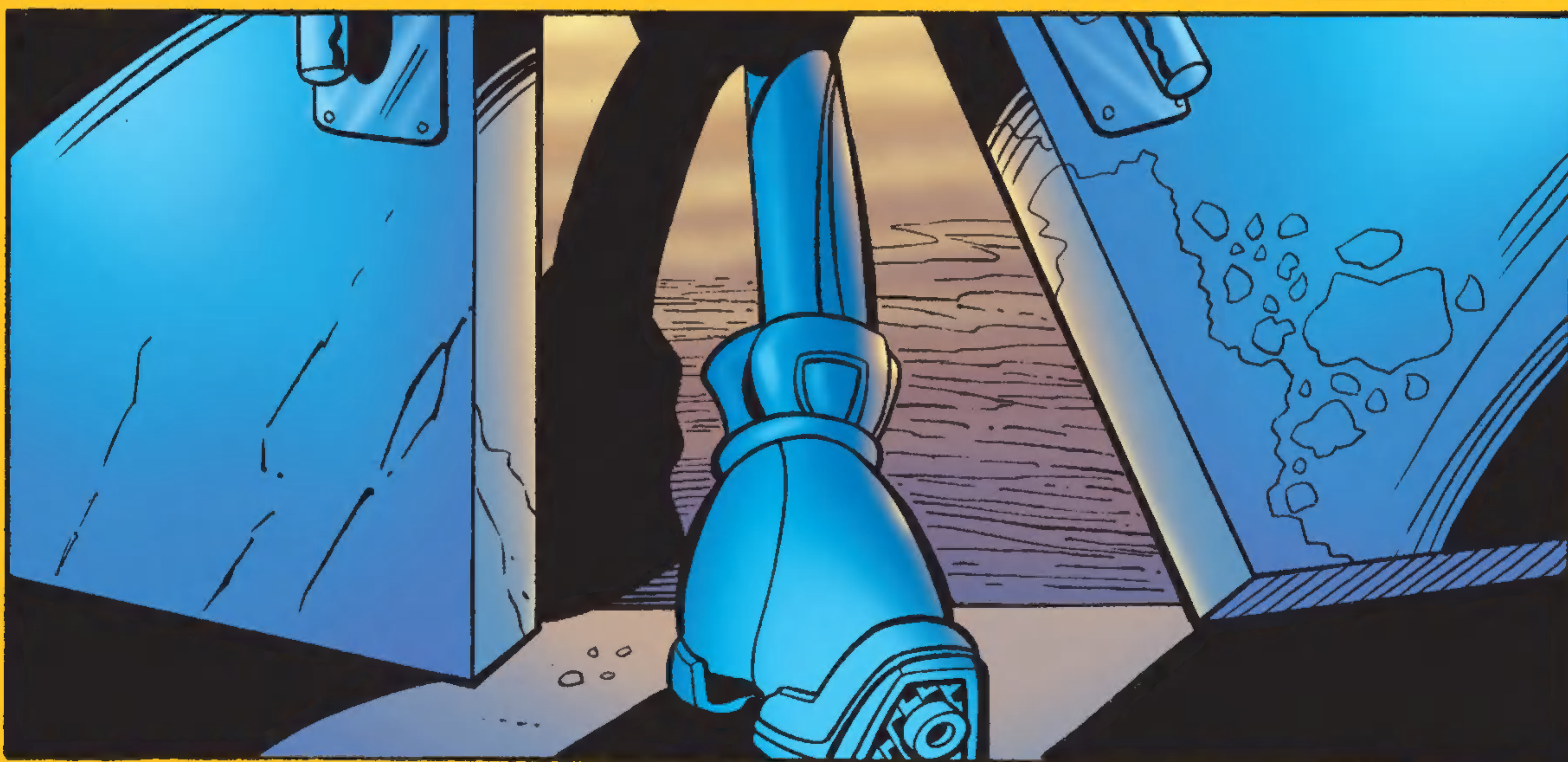
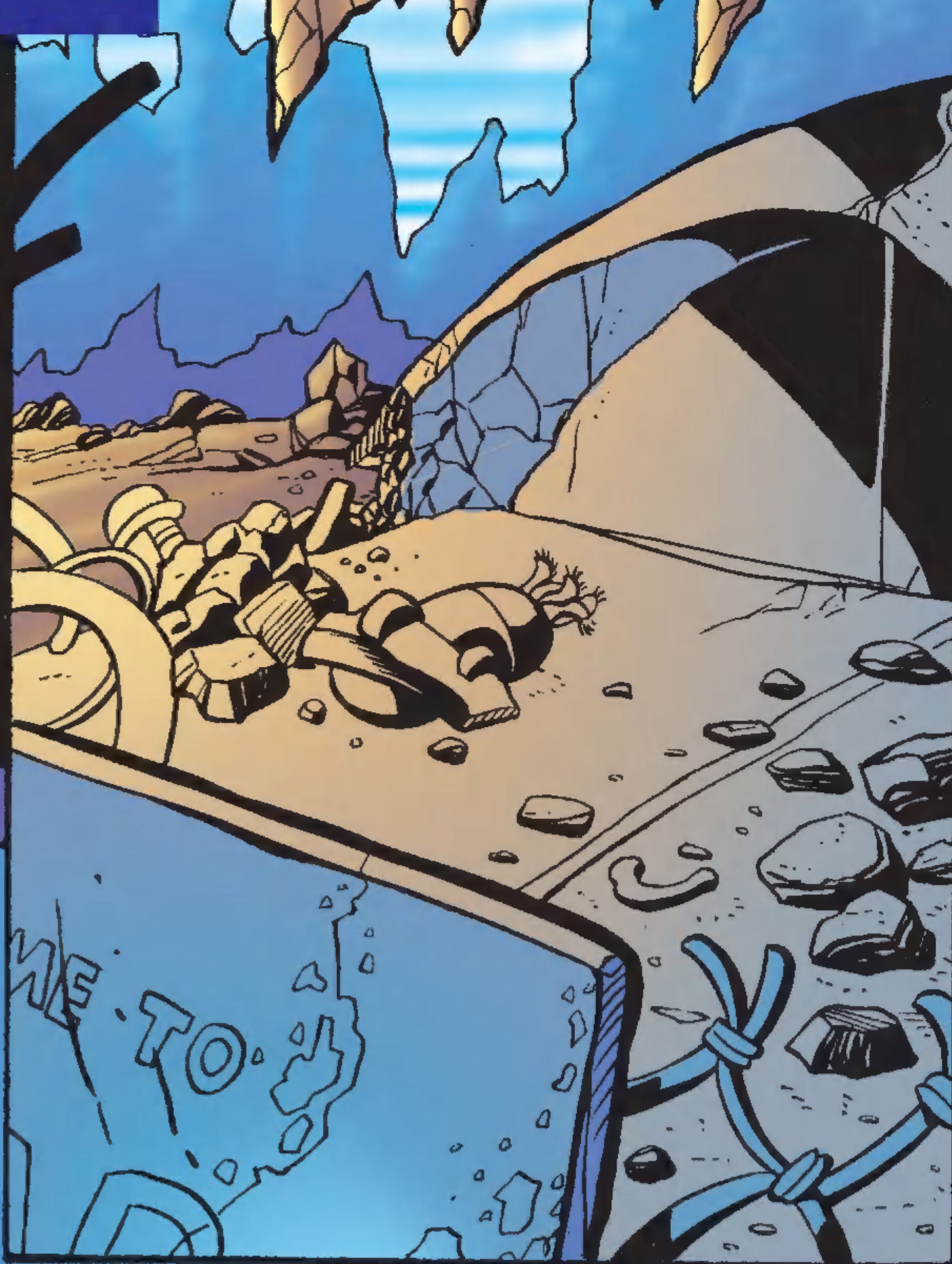
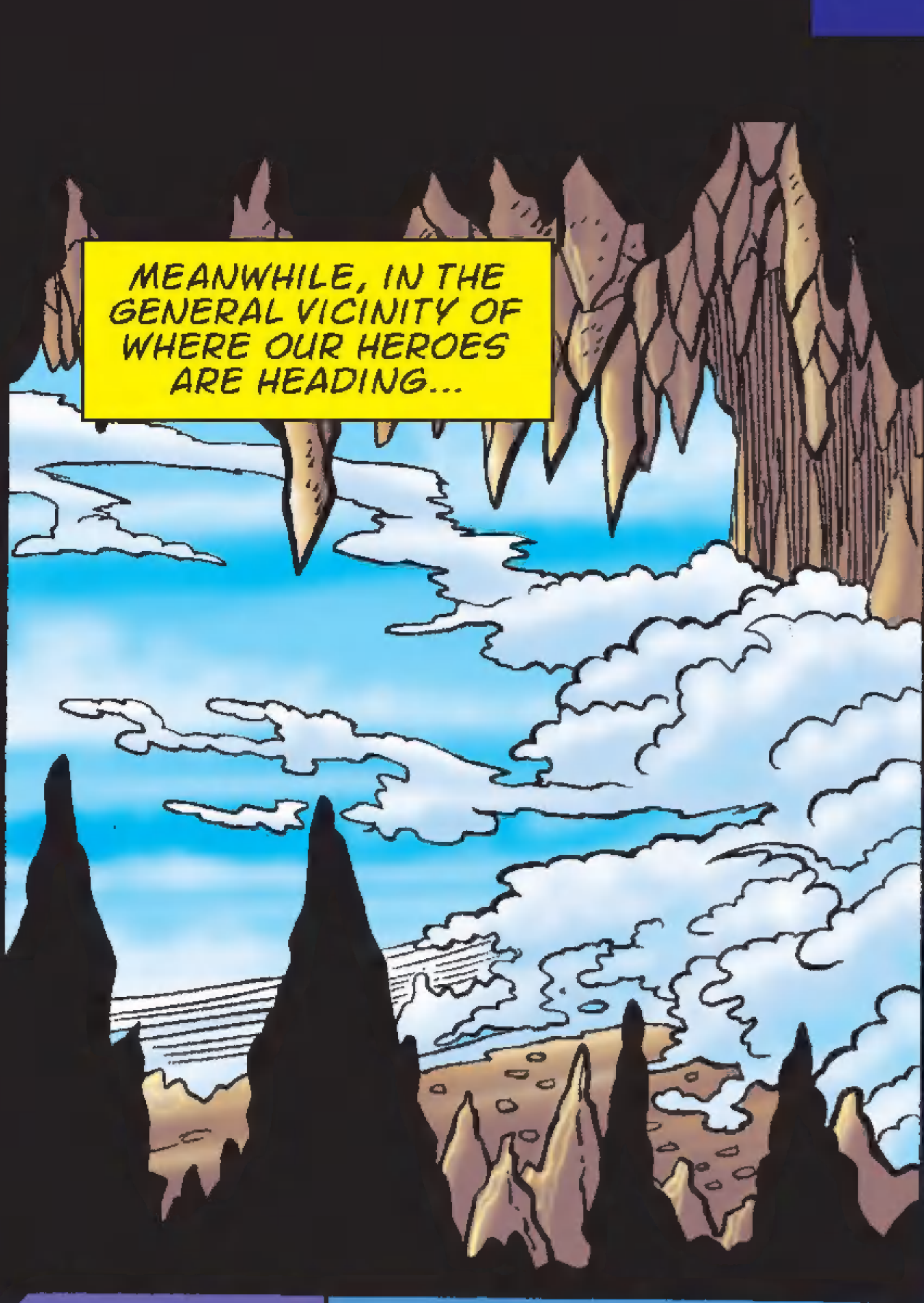








MEANWHILE, IN THE  
GENERAL VICINITY OF  
WHERE OUR HEROES  
ARE HEADING...



THE PROTOTYPE  
FROM PROFESSOR  
GERALD'S ENCRYPTED  
DATA-FILES!

NOW  
THAT I'VE  
DISCOVERED  
IT--

--WHAT  
NEXT?

TO BE CONTINUED



# LETTERS

**DUE TO THE OVERWHELMING AMOUNT OF FAN RESPONSE IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO REPLY TO EACH FAN. SPACE LIMITATIONS MAY REQUIRE SOME PRINTED LETTERS TO BE EDITED. ALL YOUR LETTERS ARE APPRECIATED!**

Is there some secret code to get your letter in the next issue? I've read all of the letters, and this is what I've found; all of them say something funny, something about Spaz, and then that they are the #1 fan.

So here I go:

Want to hear the joke about the ceiling fan? Never mind, it's way over your head. HA HA!!! It's funny.

Spaz rocks! I'm the #1 fan.

Put this in to clarify my theory. Or to say that I'm wrong. Whichever.

-AREO THE HEDGEHOG

E-MAILED TO: SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

**While I find your theory interesting, clever and well thought out, it is simply not true. We base our selection on a series of mathematical factors and formulas. One such factor is how many Shameless Plugs I can fit in. Sometimes... just a coin flip.**

Dear SONIC-GRAMS, I think you guys have been making the best comic series ever created. I have been a fan of your work since about issue #90. What were the names of all the other SONIC cartoons that came out?

**First was SONIC THE HEDGEHOG and THE ADVENTURES OF SONIC THE HEDGEHOG (1992) which is where a lot of faces from the comic book first showed up. Then SONIC THE HEDGEHOG THE MOVIE (1998) which is ultra cool and you can find on DVD. Then came SONIC UNDERGROUND (1999) which we did a way cool tie-in with SONIC SUPER SPECIAL #10 and of course SONIC X on the tube now. Did I mention we are going to do a new SONIC X mini-series? Oh it's gonna be sweet.**

Why not take a poll with all the readers to vote for the character they want back the most.

**Good idea. So get your old SONIC comics and games**

**out and let us know who you want to see for the first time, or a character you'd like to return. If you need some classic games get the SONIC MEGA COLLECTION PLUS or some classic SONIC comics. Use the SONIC CHECKLIST in this comic.**

**(SHAMELESS PLUG #1)**

I vote SHADOW, because we've barely ever see him.

Good luck to you in the future. Can you put AMY in?

**Hey! only one vote per SONIC fan!**

-GUNNER SLEDGESKI

CROFTON, MD

I've been reading SONIC comics ever since I was 8 years old. (SHADOW Rocks!!!!) I know SHADOW is the ultimate life form, bio-engineered by the world famous PROFESSOR GERALD. Can you tell me more about him and why he is not featured in the comic more often?

-NINA CAFARO

SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

**Well Nina I hope this issue has answered some of your questions. Don't miss issues 146 through 149. Shadow will be playing a major role in the comic.**

Why can't you use the Chaos emeralds to roboticize SONIC'S dad?

**That is because JULES (SONIC'S dad) was mortally injured before he was roboticized. So if the process was to be reversed his old body would be so weak that he could not survive.**

Thank you, your comic is my birthday and Christmas gifts.

**Sonic comics make great gifts! You can use the SONIC**

**CHECKLIST to get your pals gifts! (SHAMELESS PLUG #2)**

This ending to the ORIGINAL FREEDOM FIGHTERS was kind of cheap, roboticizing them and sending them into the Void (Since when have you called it the Void?)

**Yeah, but the Zone of Silence sounds like they got detention or something!**

Not to be rude but that was kind of cheesy. Do not say "the power of cheese."

**I would never say that...I'm lactose intolerant.**

M25YL:FATHER'S DAY story hit very close to home. A relative of mine passed away recently, almost the same way. Thank you for listening.

**I am sorry to hear of your loss. I hope the story helped you in some way. And thank you for reading this comic.**

-RICO FERNANDEZ

SONIC@ARCHIECOMICS.COM

## FIND YOUR NAME IN PRINT:

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# SONIC-GRAMS

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AMBER GREENLEE

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MIKE PELLERITO

## START

This is going to be one of the most exciting years for SONIC! We immediately kick things into high gear with the return of SHADOW in "THE GOOD THE BAD AND THE UNKNOWN", which we lovingly dubbed "GBU" around the office. And as you have just read the prelude in this comic (unless you're odd and read this page first) you should be very juiced up!

Then, of course, right after "GBU" we have the milestone 150th issue! That is if SONIC can make it after a battle with SHADOW and friends! (Or is it enemies?) Don't worry, you'll know what I mean next month!

After announcing the new SONIC X mini series (Coming Summer 2005) and that Spaz will be doing SONIC and SONIC X covers, we have gotten a ton of fan questions! All I can tell you is I just read the SONIC X storyline for what we are planning and you will love it! There is this one scene where SONIC has to fight one of EGGMANS' robots, but what SONIC doesn't know...actually I can't tell you that. You will just have to wait and read your own issue of SONIC X!

I can tell you that we have some contests coming up!  
Told you it would be an exciting year.

MIKE

## NEXT ISSUE:



**GBU: PROTOTYPE 1 of 4:**  
The showdown every Sonic fan has waited for...Sonic vs. Shadow! And if Shadow wasn't enough, other threats both old and new are lurking in the darkness.

**OUT OF YOUR SHELL:**  
Tommy returns too! But how can he fit in? What's a lonely turtle to do?

**CIRCUIT ME:**  
When a lab accident goes wrong will N.I.C.O.L.E. leave Princess Sally trapped for a chance at life?

## OFF-PANEL



Words: Mike Gallagher  
Pictures: Dave Manak  
Colors: Henri Ratisse

